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AVERAGE DAILY SALE
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MONDAY JANUARY 8 1990

Gorbachov sends troops to Georgia

New crisis as ethnic troubles increase

By Nick Worrall in Moscow and Our Foreign Staff

The republic of Georgia was yesterday added to the list of crisis points for President Gorbachov, as the Kremlin sent troop reinforcements to keep the peace between rival communities.

The troops were deployed in the remote South Ossetia region of the Caucasus mountains, where tension is mounting between rival Georgian and Ossetian communities.

The unrest is the latest in an alarming series of ethnic and nationalist disturbances in outlying Soviet areas that are posing a severe test for President Gorbachov.

On Saturday Muslims in the southern Azerbaijan republic reportedly tore down installations along the border with Iran as a foreign ministry team from Tehran arrived in Moscow to discuss the week-long

frontier crisis. Yesterday the Iranian state news agency said Iranians had gathered at the Araks river border to express support for the Soviet Azerbaijani's demands for easier access to Iran. On the other



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side about 1,000 Azerbaijanis chanted Islamic slogans.

But the agency said an Iranian parliamentary deputy urged the Soviet Muslims through a loudspeaker to end their demonstrations.

In the northern republic of Lithuania, where the threat of a split from the Soviet Union is mounting, activists said yesterday they were organizing a huge pro-independence demonstration in the capital, Vilnius, to greet President Gorbachov, who is expected to arrive on Wednesday for talks with local communist leaders.

In the southern republic of Georgia a spokesman for the National Front of South Ossetia, an autonomous region within the republic, said Georgians had stepped up blockades of roads leading to the area's chief town, Tskhinvali.

"We are virtually in a state of siege," he said.

It was not clear how many Interior Ministry troops had been sent to the area or when. Sources in the region said Georgians began setting up the blockades after clashes first erupted last November over the death of a Georgian baby blamed on militant Ossetians. The Georgian Communist Party daily *Zarya Vostoka*, said the nine-month-old baby died when gunmen broke into a home and fired a shot.

A group of Georgian journalists issued a statement blaming the death on one of the "repeated pogroms" by Ossetians. But the Ossetian Front spokesman said a police investigation had disproved the allegation. *Zarya Vostoka*,

speaking of "the extreme rise in tension in South Ossetia", said Mr Givi Gumbaridze, the Georgian Communist Party chief, had addressed a large demonstration last Thursday in the town of Gori, near the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

In Vilnius, meanwhile, Lithuanian activists said they expected hundreds of thousands to join their "peaceful, dignified and disciplined" pro-independence rally. Sajudis, the Lithuanian political movement, issued calls for the demonstration on radio and TV.

Mr Longinas Vasiliauskas, a Sajudis spokesman, said: "This demonstration is needed to show Gorbachov and the world that the Lithuanian people has already made its choice for a free and independent state."

Mr Gorbachov is expected to spend three days in Lithuania this week trying to heal the rift between the republic's breakaway Communist Party and Moscow. In Moscow on Saturday he met Lithuanian Communists who oppose their party's break as an estimated 3,000 people rallied in Vilnius to support the protesters' appeal to Mr Gorbachov to condemn "nationalistic and chauvinistic overtones".

Yesterday Tass said the Moscow talks and Mr Gorbachov's earlier meeting with the pro-independence faction featured "an exchange of opinions on a way out of the situation." Mr Algirdas Brazauskas, the Lithuanian Communist Party leader, said the meetings had "helped the two sides understand each other better."



Mr Brazauskas, Lithuanian leader: better understanding

Simple measures 'can defeat laser weapon'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

A new laser gun installed on several Royal Navy warships to counter attacks from low-flying aircraft appears to have been fatally compromised by being leaked in a Spanish magazine.

The Ministry of Defence has until now applied a D-Notice "ban" on publishing details of the weapon, which is apparently designed to "blind" pilots. It is aware that fairly simple counter-measures can be taken by the enemy. Yesterday Captain

Richard Sharpe, editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships*, said it would be possible to put a filter on a pilot's visor or even on the windscreen of his aircraft to deflect a strong laser beam.

"The laser gun that has been installed on the warships is just like a powerful searchlight with a narrow focus," he said.

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Defence, will be questioned this week by the Opposition on the capabilities of the new weapon.

Continued on page 22, col 8

Rousing welcome for women crew



Tracy Edwards and her crew celebrate after receiving the trophy for divisional honours at Auckland last night.

Second win for Maiden

From Barry Pickthall
Auckland

A 12,000-strong crowd welcomed Maiden, Tracy Edwards's 58ft British yacht, to Auckland last night as she claimed a second divisional victory in the Whitbread Round the World Race, beating L'Esprit de Liberte, the French yacht, by 50 minutes.

The win extends Maiden's overall lead halfway through the marathon to a commanding 16 hours and five minutes

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over Patrick Tabarly's poverty-stricken yacht, which blew out her mainsail on Christmas night and lost several spinnakers and a genoa later in the leg.

Edwards and her all-women crew had no easy passage on the 3,400-mile stage from Fremantle. "Dawn Riley and Michele Paret, my two watch leaders, are both suffering from tendinitis [a form of tennis elbow] after doing so much steering, and Tanja Visser had a fight with the spinnaker and lost," Edwards said. "She needed stitches after being caught in the eye by the clew of the sail."

Forty-knot head winds put such a strain on the yacht's rig that four days into the voyage four hairline cracks opened up around the spar close to the boom connection.

Tabarly said: "We were never more than 10 miles apart throughout the voyage."

'Honourable draw' call in 999 dispute

By Richard Ford
and Tim Jones

The Government will today come under increasing pressure to break the bitter 17-week ambulance dispute as Conservative MPs return from their constituencies convinced that ministers have lost the "hearts and mind" battle against the unions.

With union shop stewards today meeting to call for an all-out strike and with a serious intensification of the dispute planned for Wednesday, senior ministers rallied around Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, in an issue now seen as having a crucial bearing on the Government's anti-inflation strategy. Mr Clarke had

issued a warning in the summer that to concede the 8.8 per cent rise to the railwaymen was bound to lead to serious trouble in the health service.

In Whitehall last night there were clear signals of how the deadlock in the dispute could be broken to enable both sides to claim an "honourable draw".

Mr Clarke hinted that the stalemate could be ended if the unions abandoned their demand for the establishment of an index-linked pay formula of the kind enjoyed by police and firemen.

He told *The Times* that if the unions had something new to say, they should return to the negotiating table. "That certainly involves the idea of abandoning a formula. It also

involves talking quite different terms to the 11.4 per cent or a bit less they have been talking about."

Mr Roger Poole, the chief union negotiator said he was "concerned at the conflicting messages we are receiving".

Photograph 2

and called on Mr Clarke to discuss any new proposals with the unions rather than with the press.

With deepening unhappiness among Conservative backbenchers, Mr Clarke will defend his policy as an opposition debate on his handling of the dispute is to be held on Thursday.

His room for manoeuvre is limited as Mr Duncan

Nicholl, chief executive of the NHS, made clear there was no intention of turning the 9 per cent offer over 18 months into a 12-month deal.

Government determination to hold out against any figure remotely resembling the unions' 11.4 per cent claim has been strengthened by speculation that unemployment is set to rise.

Last night, Mr Michael Howard, the new Secretary of State for Employment, said "it would be very damaging for the claim to be conceded".

Aware that any sign of split or dissent within the Cabinet would be politically damaging, Mr Clarke said: "I have had no trouble at all with my senior colleagues who have not publicly or privately ut-

tered a note of dissent for four months through a very difficult dispute."

The opposition seized on the "confusion and disarray" which it claims is dividing the Conservative Party and urged Tory backbench MPs to speak for their constituents "rather than answer to the whips" during Thursday's debate.

Mr Robin Cook, for Labour, said: "After several months of asking the unions to come forward and negotiate openly, it is a bit rich for Mr Clarke to negotiate by means of a lobby briefing."

"This presents the problem that by making your offer through an off-the-record briefing nobody seems now to know what he said, including Mr Duncan Nicholl."

Benefits outlined

Move to calm rates fears

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Government is to write to every business in the country explaining the new uniform business rate in an attempt to calm businessmen facing large increases in their rate bills. There are fears that the arts will be particularly badly affected.

The letter, to be sent to every business before the new system is introduced on April 1, will outline its benefits and set out in detail the £3 billion transitional arrangements aimed at limiting the increases over a five-year period.

The legislation includes provision for an extension of the transitional period, but no decision will be taken on changing the arrangements until ministers at the Department of the Environment have assessed the level of unease among Tory backbenchers.

Although local firms have

complained to Conservative MPs in their constituencies about the scale of the increases, Whitehall believes the business community has not yet grasped the way in which annual increases will be limited to a maximum of 20 per cent plus inflation for large businesses, and 15 per cent plus inflation for the next five years.

In the letter, Mr Christopher Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr David Hunt, the minister with responsibility for local government, will strongly defend the new scheme by arguing that it is good for business and aims to stop high spending local authorities imposing huge rate increases.

Mr Hunt is prepared to meet Conservative backbench MPs, including members of the party's small business

committee who will demand changes in the transitional arrangements, including extending it for a number of years and reducing the maximum rate increase.

He said yesterday that not one of his parliamentary colleagues had been in contact with him since the scale of the increases became known last week. He denied that the decision to write to every business had been made because of protests by businessmen and organizations such as the Confederation of British Industry and the Retail Consortium.

Mr Hunt is prepared for a wave of anger from the Conservative back-benches when Parliament resumes today but he strongly defended the new uniform business rate.

Almost 80 per cent of the new charge was related to the

Continued on page 22, col 1

INSIDE

History in the re-making

● The revolution in Romania: the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, the cry of freedom in the Baltic republics — suddenly historians must rewrite their standard works.

● How are educationalists to cope with a subject going through its own revolution? *The Times* seeks the answers: page 12

Portfolio

PLATINUM

● There were no winners on Saturday of the weekly Portfolio Platinum competition. Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 27

DTI widens hunt for insiders

Department of Trade and Industry officials are investigating possible links between a company promoter and fund managers at a leading City investment house, as part of a hunt for insider dealing and fraud. The DTI has appointed inspectors to investigate an alleged ring of City professionals. Page 22

United reward

Manchester United were drawn away to Hereford in the fourth round of the FA Cup after their victory at Nottingham Forest yesterday. The favourites, Arsenal, will play QPR or Cardiff. Page 40

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Water may be rationed in drought-hit South-east

By David Sapsed

Southern Water, recently privatized, yesterday revealed far-reaching plans, including the possible rationing of supplies to more than a million domestic and commercial customers, to try to avert a severe water shortage in the South-east which could involve householders and businesses in Kent and East and West Sussex having to rely on stand-pipes this summer.

"It is a possibility, but it is the last thing we want," a spokesman said, adding: "The situation is certainly very serious; we need several months of steady rainfall if we are to avoid some very considerable problems."

"We are involved in a large-scale evaluation programme looking at a every way possible to overcome the

current situation," said a spokesman yesterday.

The company's "drought committee" is investigating suggestions which include the importation of two desalination plants from Saudi Arabia and the shipping of supplies from the water-rich North to the South-east in 100,000-tonne tankers.

Drought orders are already in force in the three counties, banning garden hoses, the watering of parks and public gardens, mechanical car and train washes, and public fountains.

Mr Ken Tozzi, Southern's divisional manager in Sussex, believes it would take three months of persistent rain to avoid a crisis. The southern region of the National Rivers Authority, which has ascribed the shortage in the three counties to a "once in

a century" drought, estimates that it would take twice the average rainfall over the remainder of winter and the spring to bring supplies back to normal.

Southern's problems began during the dry, mild winter of 1988-89. The position eased temporarily in the relatively wet spring but the exceptionally long, hot summer and the absence of prolonged winter rain has left underground supplies at a record low.

"Kent and Sussex are 70 per cent reliant on underground supplies and that is where the problem lies. Heavy downpours do not really help, as most of the water simply runs off; we need steady rain which will seep through the tiny fissures in the chalk to replenish the stocks," Southern said.

Three new boreholes have been sunk around Brighton and Worthing but the company admitted that it might have to "restrict domestic use in some way." It would not say how, but agreed that cutting off supplies to homes at certain hours had not been ruled out.

"Contingency plans have been drawn up to avoid the spectre of people having to use standpipes. We are looking at resources we can utilize and attempting to predict what rain we can expect in a bid to overcome the problem."

"One constant difficulty is that householders look out the window and see it is pouring with rain and simply cannot believe there is a drought and, therefore, can see no reason to conserve water."

SMALLBONE of DEVICES

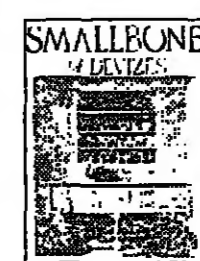
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- 10-11 NORTH STREET, GUILDFORD
- 46 KING STREET, KNUITSFORD
- 26 CASTLE STREET, EDINBURGH
- 21 LONDON ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS
- 19 HOLYWELL HILL, ST ALBANS
- 16 THE PARADE, LEAMINGTON SPA

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Tribute in M1 air crash anniversary

The 47 passengers who died in the M1 air disaster a year ago today were remembered yesterday in church services in Kegworth, the Leicestershire village close to the spot where the British Midland Boeing 737 crashed, and in Belfast.

There was no formal memorial service, but 47 roses were placed at the altar of St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, by survivors and relatives of those who died, many of whom came from Northern Ireland.

A scroll of remembrance listing the names of the dead was re-dedicated during the service, which was attended by representatives of all the main churches in Ireland. In Kegworth, parishioners at three churches said special prayers for the dead, their families and survivors.

The official report into why flight BD 92 crashed just after 8 pm on January 8 last year will be published in about two months' time. It should resolve the mystery of why Captain Kevin Hunt and First Officer David McClelland shut down the right engine of the aircraft when subsequent tests showed the left engine to be faulty.

Transplant MP better

Mr Sam Galbraith, Labour's Scottish health spokesman, was improving yesterday after a lung transplant. The MP for Strathkelvin and Bearsden, aged 44, was flown to the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, by air ambulance from Glasgow on Friday.

The single-lung transplant was carried out that night. He has since been taken off a life-support machine and is said to be making progress. Mr Galbraith, married with a baby daughter, is suffering from a lung disorder that stiffens the air sacs, causing shortage of breath.

End blasphemy call

Mr Allame Abulfatih Chishti, managing director of the British Muslim Alliance, met Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, Sikh and Christian leaders yesterday in Southall, west London. He is trying to set up a cross-religious council to "fight blasphemy". He said that such works as Salman Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, and the film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, "should be democratically, logically and conclusively terminated and destroyed."

Powell 'obstacles'

Mr Enoch Powell indicated last night that there were still big obstacles to the prospects of any reconciliation between himself and the Conservative Party (Richard Ford writes). He said yesterday that on the issue of the European Community there were signs that the party was moving towards his view. However, Mr Powell, who remains a member of the Ulster Unionist Party in spite of losing his South Down seat in 1987, is strongly opposed to the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

In famous footsteps

Labour has chosen Mr Llewellyn Smith, aged 45, to succeed Mr Michael Foot as its parliamentary candidate for Blaenau Gwent. Mr Smith, Euro-MP for South-east Wales, beat four other candidates in a constituency party vote. Mr Foot, aged 76, who led the party from 1980-83, is retiring at the next general election after representing the constituency since 1960, when it was Ebbw Vale, on the death of Nye Bevan. Mr Foot had a 27,861 majority at the last election.

Lord McAlpine dies

Lord McAlpine of Moffat, the head of the McAlpine building and construction family, died yesterday aged 82. Under his direction Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons built such London landmarks as the Shell Centre and the National Theatre. Lord McAlpine, known as Sir Edwin before becoming a life peer 10 years ago, was well-known as a horse-race owner and breeder, a socialite and benefactor of charities and the Conservative Party. *Obituary, page 18*

Ulster taxi driver is shot dead in his car

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

A man was found shot dead at the wheel of a car near Lurgan in Co Armagh early yesterday. Police named him as Martin Byrne, aged 28, a Catholic and part-time taxi driver. They said he had no connection with the security forces. Mr Byrne was found slumped with a gunshot wound to his head in his red Nissan on a slip road to Northern Ireland's M1 near Derry Macash. Police believe the body had been left overnight. In another development last night, the Northern Ireland Office confirmed that a prison officer from the mainland was investigating an attempted IRA breakout from Crumlin Road jail in early October. The escape plan by dozens of republican prisoners failed after a JCB digger carrying a 500lb bomb broke down.

Dancers' pay vote threatens ballet production

The long pay dispute involving ballet dancers at the Royal Opera House is likely to deteriorate today with the result of a ballot on industrial action.

A £300,000 production of *Prince Igor*, the epic nineteenth century opera by Alexander Borodin scheduled to open on February 1, is under threat after dancers walked out of rehearsals on Saturday after rejecting a 15 per cent pay offer.

The 136 dancers from the Royal Ballet and Sadler's Wells Ballet companies are also unhappy about the introduction of new working practices and many are ready to take some form of industrial action.

Votes in a secret ballot on whether or not to take such action are being counted this morning. Equity, the dancers' union, will announce the result later today.

An overwhelming majority of the dancers voted to reject the latest offer from the Royal Opera House of 15 per cent, an increase of 5 per cent which matches a union demand made last July but which is attached to new working conditions.

Miss Rosie Brocklehurst, spokeswoman for Equity, said: "The dancers are very fed up and feel completely ignored by management. They are still open to a better offer. If the ballot reveals they want

industrial action we have 28 days to decide what form that action will take."

The sticking points are new working practices and contracts for extra activities, but the situation has been aggravated by low morale among the dancers.

Miss Brocklehurst, referring to the walk-out from rehearsals, said the dancers had no obligation to work beyond their standard 37-hour week without a contract for the extra work.

"They have not been taking industrial action by refusing to attend rehearsals, merely not working overtime," she said.

Two new working conditions

involve extra hours during the first week of the dance season, a period traditionally used for limbering up and agreement for the screening of two ballet productions each season on giant video screens in the piazza at Covent Garden.

Mr Jeremy Isaacs, general secretary of the Royal Opera House, said the latest offer was final and described its rejection as "an absolute tragedy that should not happen."

He said: "The dancers are hard-working, dedicated and skilled and we think a lot of them. But in this day and age, considering it's public money, the public is entitled to

know that the Opera House is run with maximum cost efficiency and there are no practices which are wasteful and unproductive."

He said the offer would see the pay of a first-year dancer increase from £167.98 a week to £193.18. The pay of a senior principal dancer would rise from £515.15 to £592.42. He said that some senior dancers had negotiated salaries of £1,000 a week for a particular production or period of time.

Mr Isaacs said it was doubtful that *Prince Igor*, the highlight of the new season, would go ahead in its "full glory", but the production was not yet dead.

Baker attacks Labour over proposal for rights charter

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Far-reaching Labour Party proposals for constitutional change would raise serious questions about the present level of parliamentary representation from Scotland, Wales and northern England, the Conservative party chairman claimed yesterday.

He said they would reopen the question of Scotland's union with England and Wales while also imposing another tier of government throughout the nation.

Mr Kenneth Baker said that plans for sweeping constitutional change outlined by Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party, would mean more government and more expense. The proposals for a Charter of Rights, safeguarded by an elected second chamber that would replace the House of Lords, were "incredible".

Mr Baker added: "If Labour is really going to pursue this, and I assume they are, they will be doing nothing else for five years. What they are planning is incredible. There won't be time for any other legislation."

In a key speech at a Fabian Society conference, Mr Hattersley pledged a Labour government to "the greatest constitutional reforms this century", with eventual devolution of power to Scotland, Wales and the English regions.

A series of measures, including legislation on privacy, freedom of information, parliamentary control of the security services and changes in the sex and racial discrimination Acts would amount to a Charter of Rights.

Mr Hattersley said: "Too many of the freedoms about which Britain has boasted have historically been available to only a small proportion of our population. Labour intends to make them a reality for all our citizens."

"The thrust of our policy review is the determination to define those rights which ought to be universal and to

ensure they can be exercised — in practice as well as in theory — by an increasing number of men and women."

The House of Lords would be abolished and replaced by a second chamber empowered to delay any legislation threatening individual rights for the five-year life of a parliament.

Under Labour's proposals, there would be a Freedom of Information Act, a Secret Services Act bringing the operations of MI5 and MI6 under parliamentary scrutiny, and elements of patronage would be curbed by giving the Commons the power of veto over senior appointments in areas such as the BBC and remaining nationalized industries.

New legislation toughening laws on racial and sexual discrimination would be in

● There won't be time for other legislation ●

introduced, along with measures to improve access to legal services. Labour would also create a series of regional assemblies for Scotland, Wales and the English regions. Mr Hattersley gave no timetable for the introduction of the measures.

Mr Baker said: "It looks to me as if these proposals are basically in order to protect freedom with a lot more law. More law means more government. That will mean quite a lot of extra government and spending."

Mr Baker warned that creating regional assemblies would add another tier of government in the country. He said regional assemblies would raise the fundamental issue of the relationship of Scotland with the rest of the kingdom. It would also mean questions about the level of representation in the Commons from Scotland, Wales and the regions.

Clarke's time off from fray



Sunday rest for Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, in the garden of his Nottingham home as he prepared to face MPs' demands to solve the ambulance pay dispute.

Kinnock's plea to governors

By David Tyther, Education Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock has intervened to try to persuade parents and governors of a school threatened with closure to reject proposals to remove it from local authority control.

A five-page private letter from the Labour leader will be considered at an emergency meeting tonight of the 12 governors of the 557-pupil Cwmarn comprehensive school, near Newport, Gwent.

Mr Kinnock, the constituency MP, says parents and governors should abandon a

ballot on the proposals as opting-out would "reduce the prospect of a secure, stable education" for the pupils.

The governors want to join the Government's new network of grant-maintained schools to escape closure proposed by Labour-controlled Gwent County Council because of a big drop in numbers of children.

In his letter, Mr Kinnock urged the governors to think again. He said that opting out would mean the school losing

vital local council support services, that it would become isolated in the community and would create "additional burdens" for teachers.

There was a danger that the school would not retain and recruit enough qualified staff to provide the National Curriculum.

Mr Kinnock said the school should instead appeal directly to the Secretary of State to reverse Gwent's closure decision and strive to keep open under local authority control.

Cash cuts 'causing poverty of science'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Government's approach to investment in scientific research and education is damaging British industry's ability to innovate, according to a study published today.

The criticism is not restricted to cuts in spending on civil research since 1979.

Although the Government receives most of the blame for the "present poverty of British science", academic scientists are criticized for their failure to argue against policies that have changed the direction of research and led to increased central control and selectivity.

The analysis, by Dr David Edgerton, of the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, and Miss Kirsty Hughes, of the department of economics at Manchester University, says the present policies have been endorsed by advisers with a simplistic view of the role of science.

The report, published in *Public Administration*, the journal of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, says the Government's handling of scientific and industrial questions is flawed by contradictions. As public spending on science has been cut, the Government has asked industry to fund more research and development.

The authors say the Government and its policy advisers have never tackled the question of why industry-funded research was so low. They suggest that "industry may not be funding more R&D as it is not competent further down the development, production and marketing chain".

The report also analyses "near-market research", an idea introduced by the Government two years ago for the first time. It was used initially by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to cut research projects that it believed could be paid for by industry.

According to Dr Edgerton and his colleagues, the Government is "demonstrably wrong" in believing there will be no market failures in near-market innovations.

Letters, page 15

Correspondence in the dispute between newspaper executives

The following is the text of the recent letters between Mr Black and Mr Knight:

December 20, 1989

Dear Conrad,
I quite agree about the "secret interval" — I have said to you from the outset that I regard the earliest date for starting any new job (competitive or not) as being Spring. One condition put to Murdoch and others has accordingly been that I will not entertain any starting dates before mid-March 1990.

If you feel inclined to call, I would welcome your counsel. Yours

Andrew

January 2 1990

Dear Andrew,
Now that Rupert Murdoch's long-awaited announcement about you has come out, I would be remiss if I did not offer some parting thoughts, especially in reply to your last fascinating letter to me of December 19, in which you volunteered that "it would require an act of Parliament to prevent us from being friends." In the same letter you also gave your idea of the "decent interval" that should elapse between leaving us and joining Murdoch.

You will recall that you retired as chief executive on September 19, a week after selling two million Telegraph shares to the Cayzer family after extensive discussions in which you apparently gave them to understand that you would be continuing indefinitely with us. In view also of the fact that you remained as a director of the Daily Telegraph, receiving board papers and giving management advice until December 21, and on full pay until December 31, and that you proposed to back-date your resignation from the board (an initiative that would have been illegal as well as in questionable taste), it would seem that you, too, are aware that



Andrew Knight: Former Telegraph chief executive.

March 12 may be premature to the point of unseemliness as a starting date for your new employment. As Frank Rogers has told you, six months from December 21 would have been quite acceptable to us.

I must emphasize, as I have before, that my only interest in these matters is in the avoidance of unnecessary damage to your reputation. We have been friends for many years and you did me the honour of asking me to be a godparent to your daughter, and it is in that spirit that I must tell you that I fear that this transition has not been handled with your customary thoroughness and probity.

Rupert Murdoch's entourage intermittently announced your imminent arrival at News International through most of 1989. You repeatedly assured me and other colleagues that there was no truth to these reports. I know of no one who believes that this new venture really originated at the Reuters meeting in late autumn.

Mr Andrew Knight, chief executive of *The Daily Telegraph* until last September, responded yesterday to a highly-charged personal attack from Mr Conrad Black, the newspaper's Canadian proprietor, after his acceptance of the executive chairmanship of the rival *News International* newspaper and television group.

In a widely leaked hand-written letter faxed from Florida last week, Mr Black said Mr Knight's decision to join Mr Rupert Murdoch's company this March was "premature to the point of unseemliness."

Mr Black added that "substantial ethical questions" were raised by Mr Knight's prolonged "courtship" with Mr Murdoch, while continuing as

retiring (awkwardly) as a director of ours, and with your pockets loaded with a net £14 million of free Telegraph stock, raises substantial ethical questions.

Our success at the Telegraph has been so comprehensive that the manner of your leaving seems doubly unfortunate. I did not dissent at all from your suggestion in August that you retire and wholeheartedly supported your efforts to quell some gossip to the effect that there had been a dispute between us. I always said that I had no objection at all to your joining a competitor if the transition was executed with appropriate timing and the necessary elegance.

That it has not been astonishing and disappointing all of us at the Telegraph, particularly given your well-known care for your own public relations. It brings back, not without some irony, your assurance to me in 1985 that a non-compete agreement would be "unnecessary and inappropriate" as you told me then that it would be "unthinkable" that you would move over to a competitor.

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Michael Hartwell nor I would have been in control of the company, (I had to propose that and similar corrections to Duff Hart-Weiss recently when I read some of your reflections in the galleries of his book about the Telegraph).

Nor do I, or will I, forget your contribution to the Telegraph's revival, especially in recruiting talented personnel, encouraging and supporting radically innovative ideas, and helping to stabilize the company in its most difficult days. I agree with your very optimistic prognosis for the company; your services in achieving that transformation were valuable and you were well-appreciated and amply rewarded for them.

If I could not quite subscribe to your September 17 draft of a press announcement referring to yourself as "the greatest thing since sliced bread", it is equally true that I thought you were being uncharacteristically self-deprecatory when you described yourself, in July at Brooks Club, in industrial relations matters, as "a busted flush".

For every personal and corporate reason, I will always endeavour to give you the benefit of the doubts that have arisen. Unfortunately, many will not.

had informed Mr Black, senior Telegraph staff and others that Mr Murdoch had offered him the managing directorship at Wapping, east London, on various occasions — but that he was not going.

The offer of executive chairman came long after he ceased any executive functions at the Telegraph, he said.

Mr Knight described Mr Black's allegations concerning the sale of his shares in *The Daily Telegraph* as completely untrue, and concluded his response to his former employer by saying: "You have provided a very jolly story for the newspapers. But your letter says more about you than about me."

He said that during the autumn, he

Finally, it would be churlish of me not to wish you well in your new endeavours, which I surmise will consist largely of trying to alleviate News International's widespread, and in my view, not wholly deserved reputation as a cynical and somewhat down-market operation. Good luck! Max Hastings has asked me to commend to you the merits of combining *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

To be entirely serious, I do wish you and Sabina well, and will always remember the pleasant times we had together. Yours sincerely,

Conrad

January 5 1990

Dear Conrad,
You have widely circulated your views without checking the most crucial facts — which are incorrect. Your charges are very grave, and I hope you might ask those friends to whom you have shown them to suspend judgement until I have been able to respond in a few days.

Meanwhile I remember only our friendship and achievement. Yours

PS. I trust this will be shown today



Conrad Black: Canadian proprietor of the Telegraph.

to all those you have shown your letter to.

January 7 1990

Dear Conrad,
On January 2 1990 you sent me an emotional and inaccurate letter. You wrote that your "only interest in these matters is in the avoidance of unnecessary damage" to my reputation. Three days later I learned you had sanctioned your letter being used by one of your own newspapers, from where it found its way to other national newspapers.

I will reply only to the wildest inaccuracies in your letter. First, you refer to my "courtship" with Rupert Murdoch while I was Chief Executive of *The Daily Telegraph*. The truth is that during the Autumn I told you, the Deputy Chairman, many Telegraph staff and outsiders that I had been under offer to be Managing Director at Wapping from Rupert Murdoch at various times. And that I was not going.

Rupert Murdoch appointed Gus Fischer as Managing Director. After this appointment, and long after I had ceased all executive functions at *The Telegraph*, he made me a new offer involving a different job, Executive Chair-

man, as his own replacement in Britain. This I accepted.

Second, you criticise me for taking up the appointment by a competitor too hastily. I ceased to be Chief Executive in October 1989, remaining thereafter as a Non-Executive Director. I wrote to you on December 20 informing you that I would not entertain any starting date for the *NI* (News International) or any new job before mid-March 1990. I specifically mentioned that I would welcome your advice on the matter. For two weeks I did not hear from you and the announcement of my appointment was made on January 2.

There has been no indecent haste and you declined even to discuss the matter of a starting date when I suggested you do so.

Third you say that when I sold a portion of my shareholding in *The Daily Telegraph*, I gave the purchaser to understand that I would continue indefinitely with the Telegraph. You assert that I did this only a week before announcing my retirement on September 19.

This again is completely untrue. I sold the shares almost two months before the announcement of my retirement as Chief Executive. The sale was long prior to and completely unconnected with my retirement. You and I did not begin to discuss the consequences for me of your residence in London until August.

You were initially unwilling to talk yourself to the proposed purchaser of the shares when I said they wanted to meet you. When I spoke to them I emphasised my own enthusiasm for *The Telegraph*. But I also described at length your struggle as a newly resident Chairman, the role of the new Managing Director and the tremendous managerial and editorial strength I had installed.

You have provided a very jolly story for the newspapers. But your letter says more about you than about me.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew

Off-shore finance

Paper banks closed as police uncover Caribbean fraud

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A Scotland Yard fraud investigation into off-shore banking on a British dependency in the Caribbean has led to the closure of 200 "paper banks" and investigations into 70 people in the United States.

A British detective will return to the island of Montserrat for the final leg of the investigation later this month as a further 100 banks are closed and regulations are redrafted to create tighter controls.

Investigations are also expected into the 30 to 40 insurance companies on the island.

Montserrat's problems and risks are shared by other Caribbean islands that have set themselves up as off-shore banking centres.

Police believe Montserrat has been used by American fraudsters and tax evasion experts and also by money launderers acting for South American cocaine cartels, who moved to the island after American pressure on the Panamanian banking system 18 months ago.

Frank squad detectives from London were called to the island by Mr Christopher Turner, the governor, last March after a fraudster, swindled by a partner and fearing prosecution himself, went to

the authorities to describe what was happening.

Police found that Montserrat had 347 banks for a population of 10,000 in an area of 39 square miles. Most of the banks were little more than paper edifices, with no real assets or identity apart from an accommodation address, but which were nevertheless protected by bank secrecy and confidentiality.

Banks could be set up for a fee of \$3,000 and capital of \$300,000 plus a few dollars in the local currency. There was

Money launderers for cocaine cartels moved to the island

also an annual fee of about \$8,000. The capital requirement could be circumvented with documents showing that shares worth \$300,000 had been issued, but not revealing to whom they had been sold or where cash for the shares had gone.

Local people would act as the officials required for the banks' operation.

The banks were used for various frauds including advance fee frauds in which they would offer to find loans for customers in return for an

advance fee for their work. The banks also issued certificates of deposit, sometimes based on fictitious assets such as gold mines, which would be sold to the gullible, who would only find out they were worthless when they tried to sell them on the legitimate market.

The banks could be used for tax investment schemes to avoid American tax laws and for laundering money to the legitimate banking world. Detectives believe money came not only from drugs but also black-market deals in high technology goods and arms.

There have been no convictions on the island, although a former attorney general faces trial for issuing a false document and for two charges of forgery involving \$60,000. Ten people were recently convicted in Seattle in the United States for fraud and laundering the proceeds from the fraud and up to another 60 people are under investigation.

The constitution of Montserrat has been changed to move the powers to licence banks from the chief minister to the governor and, eventually, it will be used only by the large, reputable international banks.

Smugglers target Britain

Value of drugs haul up 30%

A 30 per cent increase in the street value of drugs seized by Customs and Excise investigators during 1989 will be announced on Wednesday (David Sapped writes).

The figures are being seen as further evidence that Britain is increasingly becoming a target for international drugs barons.

Lord Caidness, the Paymaster General, will announce that drugs worth a record £250 million were discovered by Customs and Excise last year, a £65 million rise on 1988, representing substantial increases in seizures of all types of drugs.

Although customs sources expressed satisfaction yesterday at their success, they pointed out that the seizures indicated the accelerating size

of the problem confronting British anti-smuggling agencies.

For the third year running, the "champagne" drug cocaine, which is also the essential ingredient of the "crack" menace facing Britain's inner cities, was discovered in far greater quantities than heroin. It has been feared for some time that Britain and Western Europe are becoming favoured targets for Colombian drug barons as they extend their horizons beyond the North American market.

Cocaine seizures reached 420kg last year, up 50 per cent on the previous year. A total of 300kg of heroin was recovered by Customs officers compared with 247kg in 1988, itself a record year.

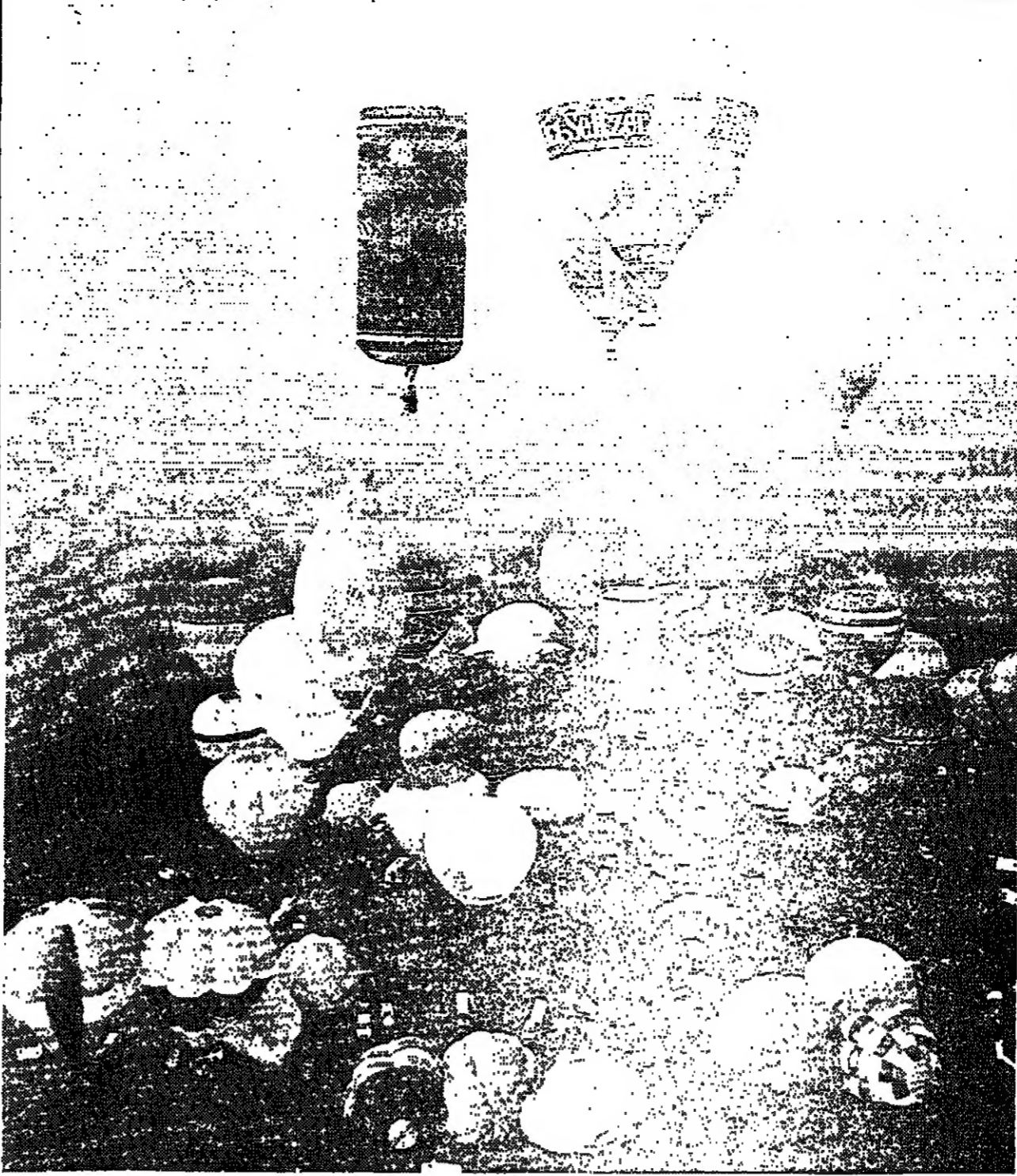
The amount of hashish — much of which now comes to Britain as blocks of resin rather than in bulky, herbal form — went up from 42.8 tonnes to about 50 tonnes.

One unexpected increase was in the amount of amphetamines recovered: up from 17.5 kilos in 1988 to 22.5 kilos last year. Customs officers believed this could be the result of the popularity of amphetamine-based "soft" drugs at "acid house" parties.

Lord Caidness is also expected to announce that the seizures by Customs and Excise officers, which exclude drugs confiscated by the country's police forces, resulted in the break-up of 140 organizations of two or more people involved in drugs smuggling.

Dawn balloonists rise to the occasion

JULIAN HERBERT



Balloonists navigating all manner of colourful craft made a dawn start yesterday in the annual International Icicle rally at Marsh Benham, near Newbury, Berkshire. The two-day meeting, traditionally the first of the year, was launched in 1972. Entrants were undeterred by heavy rain but a puncture thwarted plans to fly the entrepreneur Richard Branson's balloon.

Call to secure Yorkshire death bridge

By David Sapped

Calls for action at a bridge in Scarborough where almost 50 people have plunged to their death in the past 20 years were renewed yesterday after a man holding a young child died in an 80 ft fall on Saturday.

North Yorkshire police are expected to disclose the names today of the latest victims of the Valley Bridge. A spokesman last night refused to confirm that the man, in his mid-twenties, and the child, a girl aged about five, were father and daughter.

The man died instantly after the incident on Saturday evening and the child died shortly afterwards despite the efforts of local ambulancemen and police to revive her. Last week Miss Rebecca

Shackleton, aged 17, from Woodlands Vale, Scarborough, died two days after falling from a rope tied to the girders of the 72-year-old iron bridge by schoolchildren. She was believed to have been on a midnight romp with friends when she fell while swinging on the rope.

Last September, Scarborough council decided not to double the height of the parapets to eight feet at a cost of £80,000 after the district medical officer could not give clear advice on whether the move would deter potential suicides.

The local Samaritans group has asked for a telephone helpline and notices to be provided on the bridge at a cost of £600, but British Telecom has said the phone would be vandalized. However, council

officers will receive a report later this month on ways of installing an SOS line.

Sir Michael Shaw, Conservative MP for Scarborough, said he was very sad about the latest deaths and added that "the whole question of taking action" to curb falls from the bridge would have to be looked at again.

Canon Christopher Hawthorn, the rural dean of Scarborough, who has been campaigning for action on the bridge, said: "Something must be done to stop the increasing toll of deaths." He added that spikes on top of the parapets would help to reduce the number of death falls while not spoiling the view from the bridge, which links Scarborough's town centre with the South Cliff.

Historic letters found in Torquay

By Robin Young

A student on a community programme scheme has uncovered a cache of 1,500 manuscripts and documents, including letters from Jane Austen, Charlotte Brontë, Shelley, Byron, Keats, Ruskin, Pushkin, Goethe, Napoleon, Nelson, Catherine the Great and Berlioz while cleaning out cupboards at the headquarters of the Torquay Natural History Society.

The documents, in 12 canvas-covered albums, had lain forgotten since being bequeathed to the society by Mrs Forbes Julian, daughter of a Victorian geologist, William Pengelly, in 1934.

Mr Donald Woodall, treasurer of the society, is attempting to catalogue the collection, but opinion in the society, which runs a flower club, gramophone circle and women's keep-fit nights, is divided as to whether the documents should be displayed in their own museum, or sold to raise money. Mr Woodall would like an expert evaluation before a decision is taken.

The most valuable and attractive item is thought to be a three-page letter with a wry description of a dance from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra, dated January 8, 1799.

Keats's letter is to his fiancée, Fanny Brawne, while ill with the tuberculosis to which he succumbed in 1821; Byron's was sent to settle a gambling debt; while Charlotte Brontë was asking her publisher about money owed.

Goethe's letter, written when he was 52, is to a picture dealer, while Berlioz was offering to come to London for a fortnight "on suitable terms" for performances of his military symphony.

Napoleon upbraids a general for being too lenient with prisoners, while Catherine the Great arranges pay for Swedish prisoners-of-war put out to work. Another letter, from James II's treasurer, Lord Godolphin, authorizes a payment of £500 "for establishing His Majesty's secret service".

There are also letters from 19th-century scientists such as Pasteur, Darwin, Lister and Humboldt sent to Mrs Forbes Julian's father.

PORTFOLIO PLATINUM

There were no valid claims for The Times Portfolio Platinum weekly game on Saturday.

Fierce play climaxes in chess draws

By Raymond Keene Chess Correspondent

The four games in the Grandmaster section of the Foreign and Colonial chess tournament at Hastings, East Sussex, on Saturday ended in draws after some fierce play.

Sergei Dolmatov, of the Soviet Union, playing white, was caught in an unfamiliar variation of the Sicilian defence by Kevin Spraggett, of Canada, and after only 12 moves was forced to draw by repetition of position.

Jon Speelman missed a good opportunity in the tenth move against Michael Adams, the British champion, and was forced to agree a draw on move 25.

Murray Chandler tormented Predrag Nikolic, the tournament leader, who held on only through careful defence.

Arzur Yusupov, the Russian world championship semi-finalist, seeking revenge for a first-cycle loss to Boris Gulko, of the United States, was forced to concede a draw after an epic six hours and 58 moves.

In the Challengers section, two young British players, Chris Ward, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Tony Kosten, of Portsmouth, shared the lead with 7½ points out of 10 with one round to play.

Points after eight rounds: Nikolic 5½; Dolmatov 5; Spraggett 4½; Gulko 4; Adams, Yusupov 3½; Speelman, Chandler 3.

Delay in Guildford four hearings

By Our Crime Correspondent

A wide-ranging judicial inquiry into the conviction of the Guildford four is not now expected to begin its first public hearings until Easter. The investigation could take much longer than expected.

Mr Douglas Hurd, then Home Secretary, announced the inquiry last October after convictions were quashed by the Court of Appeal against three men and a woman for the Guildford public house bombings in 1974.

Allegations of police malpractice and corruption were made by the Crown. This

week, Sir John May, the former senior appeal judge carrying out the inquiry, will announce the names of two lay advisers who will help him to undertake the investigation.

The judicial inquiry will look at the convictions and the structure of the appeal system and the case of the Annie Maguire bomb factory, in which seven people were convicted of terrorist offences.

The Home Office says the inquiry is unlikely to sit in public before April. The public hearings will examine areas such as the need for

change in the appeal system but they are unlikely to deal with either the Guildford or Maguire cases.

In a preliminary hearing late last year Sir John said he would look into the Maguire case if police investigations or prosecutions into the actions of Surrey police officers in the Guildford case were not completed.

Avon and Somerset police have yet to complete reports on the allegations against four present and former detectives. The Crown Prosecution Service will then decide whether

any charges should be brought. At the present rate of progress any trials might not take place until much later this year.

The inquiry seems certain to stretch into 1991 and the final report may not appear for some time.

Meanwhile, lawyers for those freed, Gerard Conlon, Patrick Armstrong, Paul Hill and Carole Richardson, are preparing cases for financial compensation for their conviction and imprisonment. Each claim could run into thousands of pounds.

Mr Speaker's bedroom party piece

By Sheila Gums, Political Reporter

Those invited to dine informally with the Weatherills, Mr and Mrs Speaker, in their state apartments may be taken into the bedroom, where they will see a magnificent bed with walnut carvings and red embroidered canopy and a matching Victorian wardrobe.

These are the result of a long search for the original furniture and furnishings from the Speaker's House in the Palace of Westminster with the help of the Victoria and Albert Museum and National Heritage Memorial Fund.

Mrs Weatherill, the first Mrs Speaker for 20 years, takes pride in the return of nearly all the pieces, complete

with carpets and wallpaper in the original designs. It has prompted the Weatherills to use the bedroom for entertaining groups of up to 24 people.

The centrepiece is the state bed, designed by Pugin and Barry, which dates to 1858. The monarch-to-be is supposed to sleep in it the night before the Coronation for security, but soon after it was installed the tradition ended.

In the 1930s Victorian furniture went out of fashion and the bed was put into the Property Services Agency warehouse in Wembley. Other items from the Speaker's House were "borrowed" for offices in other parts of the



Mr Weatherill: A bed fit for a future monarch.

Palace of Westminster or stored.

The bed disappeared from the warehouse and was sold

for less than £100 in a country junk sale in 1959. Dr Clive Weinwright, V & A specialist in 19th-century furniture and interiors, discovered the bed's existence from an old account and the owner learnt its true worth when she saw publicity about a lecture given by Dr Weinwright on the Speaker's furniture.

It was bought back by the National Heritage Memorial Fund for more than £30,000, restored by V & A craftsmen and the London School of Needlework and returned to the Speaker's House.

One piece, a large walnut dressing table mirror, is still missing and Mrs Speaker and Dr Weinwright are anxious to find it.

Rector reprimanded over 'saleroom' look

A rector and two church wardens have been reprimanded by an ecclesiastical court over alterations to a 12th-century church which were said to have made the historic building look like a saleroom.

The Rev Eric Craig, of St Bartholomew's church at Yarnton, Oxfordshire, should not have authorized the installation of a new organ or changes to the altar without seeking permission from the Oxford diocese, Mr Peter Boydell, QC, chancellor of the diocese, has said.

The action of Mr Craig and his church wardens, Mr John Appleton and Mr Gary Brewerton, in failing to seek permission from the diocese amounted to "unlawful conduct" threatening the whole future of the church's exemption from the listed

building regulations, Mr Boydell said in his report at the weekend.

He said the church was granted exemption from regulations in the Town and Country Planning Act on "the sole ground that the faculty jurisdiction provided an even more rigorous system of control than would be provided by the secular legislation."

"If the church were to lose the ecclesiastical exemption, its loss would be the consequence of the unlawful conduct of such parishes as Yarnton."

However, Mr Appleton said last night that only a few parishioners were against the alterations. "There seems to be a lot of fuss over nothing. It is not as if we have made any structural alterations. A few people are upset but if no alterations were

ever made and the church reverted back to its original state they would find themselves standing through services on stone floors."

Mr Boydell decided the new organ was "not unsuitable" for the historic church, which houses the Spencer memorial chapel built in the 17th century by the Spencer family, from whom the Princess of Wales is descended.

The chancellor also decided the altar should remain for a trial period and he has ordered Mr Craig to petition parishioners on their views to be given to another court hearing later in the year.

At the original hearing last November there was some confusion over whether or not permission had been granted for the alterations. Mr Craig

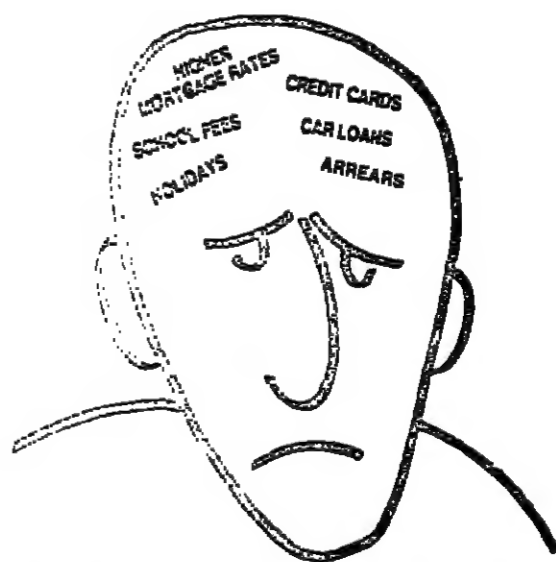
had told the hearing that Mr Hugo Brunner, chairman of the Oxford diocesan committee for the Care of Churches, had given the go-ahead for the work but Mr Brunner said he had said that the alterations were "controversial and should not be started without permission".

However, Mr Boydell said in the report: "I have no hesitation in preferring the evidence of Mr Brunner."

Archaeologists from Bradford University believe they have unearthed the ruins of the palace home of the 12th-century Prince of Wales alongside the A55, two miles west of Llanfairfechan in North Wales. The discovery has been hailed as the most important find in Wales for 100 years.

Letters, page 15

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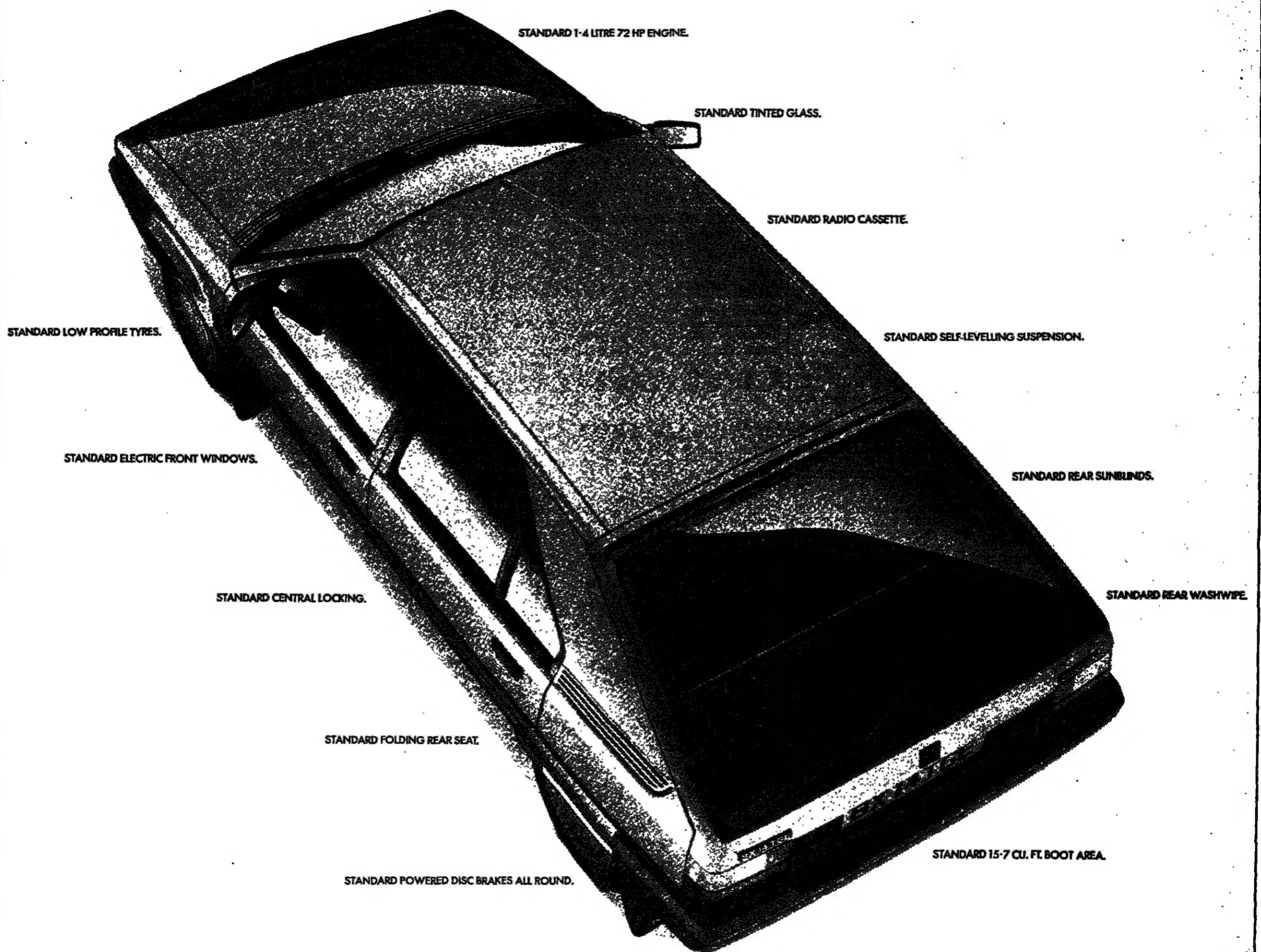
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Pressure mounts on ministers to give teachers big pay rise

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Pressure will mount on the Government this week to commit itself to substantial pay rises for the 400,000 teachers in state schools in England and Wales as it awaits final proposals for teachers' pay in 1990.

Union leaders will step up their campaign to press the Government to lift its £600 million limit set for the interim advisory committee for teachers' pay, which is to report to the Government by the end of this month.

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has made clear that he expects the committee, chaired by Lord Chilver, former vice-chancellor of the Cranfield Institute of Technology, to recommend extra payments to attract teachers to the shortage subjects.

It emerged yesterday, however, that the committee was still planning to reserve the bulk of the money, equivalent to a 7.5 per cent rise on the total salary bill, for an across-the-board payment. Lord Chilver is also expected to tell the Government that his committee believes teachers are underpaid and that substan-

tially more money should be made available.

Many Conservative backbenchers also believe steps should be taken to improve pay, which for a newly qualified graduate teacher starts at £9,300, rising to £14,690 for the experienced classroom teacher.

About 40 per cent of teachers also receive annual incentive allowances, ranging from £858 to £4,710.

Mr James Pawsey, chairman of the Conservative backbenchers' education committee, said that he thought the present rates failed to "reflect the importance of the work".

Sir Rhodes Boyson, a former Conservative education minister, said that more money would have to be found for specialist teachers if the National Curriculum was to be taught satisfactorily.

He said: "Teachers are being switched into subjects for which they are not properly qualified."

"There can be crash courses of training but unless we have properly qualified mathematics teachers teaching the National Curriculum it will become a farce. Extra money

will have to be found where there are shortages."

Sir Rhodes, a former headmaster of Highbury Grove comprehensive school in Islington, London, said that extra payments would also have to be paid to teachers in particular areas, such as London and the South-east, which were facing added difficulties because of the high price of property.

"Extra payments will have to be based both on geography and subject shortages," Sir Rhodes said.

"We have a much lower pupil-teacher ratio than many other countries. It seems to me we get a lower ratio (now 17:1) every year with a lower-paid profession," he said.

"I often think that if we got rid of the 20 per cent of inefficient teachers we would be able to pay the remaining 80 per cent properly."

Mr Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, the country's largest teachers' union, said: "Teachers will simply not put up any longer with being paid less than inflation and falling further and further behind."

Forester aims to turn the Black Country green



Britain's first community forester examines the task of bringing back woodland greenery to one of its most heavily industrialized areas. Mr David Bell, aged 52, has been appointed by the Forestry Commission to help create new areas of woodland in a community forest in south Staffordshire and to encourage programmes of tree planting in urban areas of the Black Country, where there are large tracts of derelict land

(Craig Seton writes). It is the first appointment under an initiative with the Countryside Commission to create 12 community forests around conurbations. Mr Bell, who has worked with the Forestry Commission in the Scottish Highlands, the Lake District and Shropshire for more than 35 years, said he was excited by the challenge. He will work with the newly-created Black Country Urban Forestry Unit, involving the local

authorities of Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall and Sandwell. "The idea is to persuade local communities to adopt and manage new areas of woodland which will be created," he said. "It is the greening of the urban environment, which will also encourage wildlife. For a lot of the planting there are grants available from the Countryside Commission and the Forestry Commission." Mr Bell will work from an office at Cannock

Chase, Staffordshire, advising local authorities, community and voluntary groups, youth programmes and schools who want to take part in tree planting schemes. He also wants to start a community forest in south Staffordshire by persuading farmers to set aside a few acres of their land for mainly broadleaf tree planting. "It can be a commercial proposition for them because some of it will be used for sports like shooting," he added.

Benefits gap

Teenagers 'growing to be destitutes'

By Our Education Editor

Changes in social security laws that raised the age for income support from 16 to 18 "created the possibility of absolute destitution" for young people, a report published today says.

The report, from the Family Policy Study Centre, says that people between 16 and 18 are now expected to enter government training schemes or be supported by their families.

It says, however, that sometimes families do not exist, and even where they do many are unwilling or unable to support their children.

It points to a benefits "gap" in which, apart from a few months after the child has left school, unemployed parents

The ending of students' entitlement to housing benefit could cause hardship and hinder their search for private-sector accommodation, according to a survey for Edinburgh University (Kerry Gill writes). The Student Accommodation Service says housing can take up 57 per cent of a grant, and three-quarters of students renting rooms claim benefit.

receive no help to support an unemployed 16 or 17-year-old also receiving no state benefit.

It says: "Although some parents ignore their obligations towards their children, many have a strong sense of moral duty which does not, however, solve the problem of low income."

Compulsory government training schemes are no solutions, the report says. The schemes often give poor train-

ing and offer the trainee no chance of complaining if the job is unsuitable, or appealing if an employer refuses to give them a training place.

The centre says the situation is likely to worsen as employers take over responsibility for training.

Mr Malcolm Wicks, director of the centre, said: "In the 1980s, policies for young people were developed by different government departments in response to specific pressures - unemployment, training needs, social security costs."

"The result has been, at best, confusion and at worst it means children at risk on the streets, discarded youngsters sleeping in disposable boxes," Mr Wicks said.

"In the 1990s youngsters need new hope and the Government needs a comprehensive strategy."

Where young people live appears to be one of the most important influences on what happens to them, the report says. Family background is also cited as another important factor.

Young people from working-class backgrounds in relatively prosperous areas often have a better chance of entering white-collar jobs than those from middle-class families in relatively depressed areas.

Young People: Growing up in the Welfare State (Family Policy Study Centre, 231 Baker St, London NW1 6XE; £5.75).

Education, page 33

SCIENCE REPORT

Mountain climbing is bad for the brain

Mountaineers risk brain damage as a result of life at high altitudes, according to new research; and, surprisingly, it is the best, not the worst, who suffer the most severe after-effects.

The damage is almost always temporary, although effects can still be felt a year after a Himalayan climb; it is caused by a deficiency in the amount of oxygen reaching the brain.

Thomas F Hornbein, of the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, and colleagues set teams of returning mountaineers learning and memory tests: they scored significantly worse on returning from a trip to the hills than before they set off.

The results are published in the December 21 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* (vol 321, pp 1714-1719).

The researchers have come up with several ideas to explain why the more successful mountaineers tend to suffer a greater degree of mental impairment. They tend to be very fit and athletic, and the little oxygen there is gets diverted to feed their well-trained, powerful muscles at the expense of the brain.

Trained mountaineers also tend to have relatively little carbon dioxide in the blood, an amount which drops sharply as the style of breathing changes to adapt to high altitudes. This drop leads to a constriction of arteries feeding the brain, and a further fall in the amount of oxygen that gets through.

The researchers' main evidence, however, came from their subjects' performance in the classroom rather than on Everest or Kanchenjunga. Poor performance immediately after a gruelling expedition could have more to do with fatigue, cold, exposure and stress than with hypoxic brain damage. These possibilities had to be eliminated from the experiments.

So in addition to testing teams of mountaineers returning from the summit of Mount Everest (where the atmospheric pressure is only one-third that at sea level), the researchers tested young volunteers who spent 40 days in a special chamber in which barometric pressure was gradually lowered.

These conditions simulated the steady drop in atmospheric pressure experienced by a climber, but the volunteers lived at normal room temperature with otherwise normal sea-level lives. Yet they suffered the same kinds of neuropsychological impairment as the "real" mountaineers - a strong argument for the idea that high-altitude brain damage is directly due to a shortage of oxygen.

The hypoxic brain damage was relatively minor and transient in most cases, but some effects on motor performance were still evident a year after a climb.

Henry Gee

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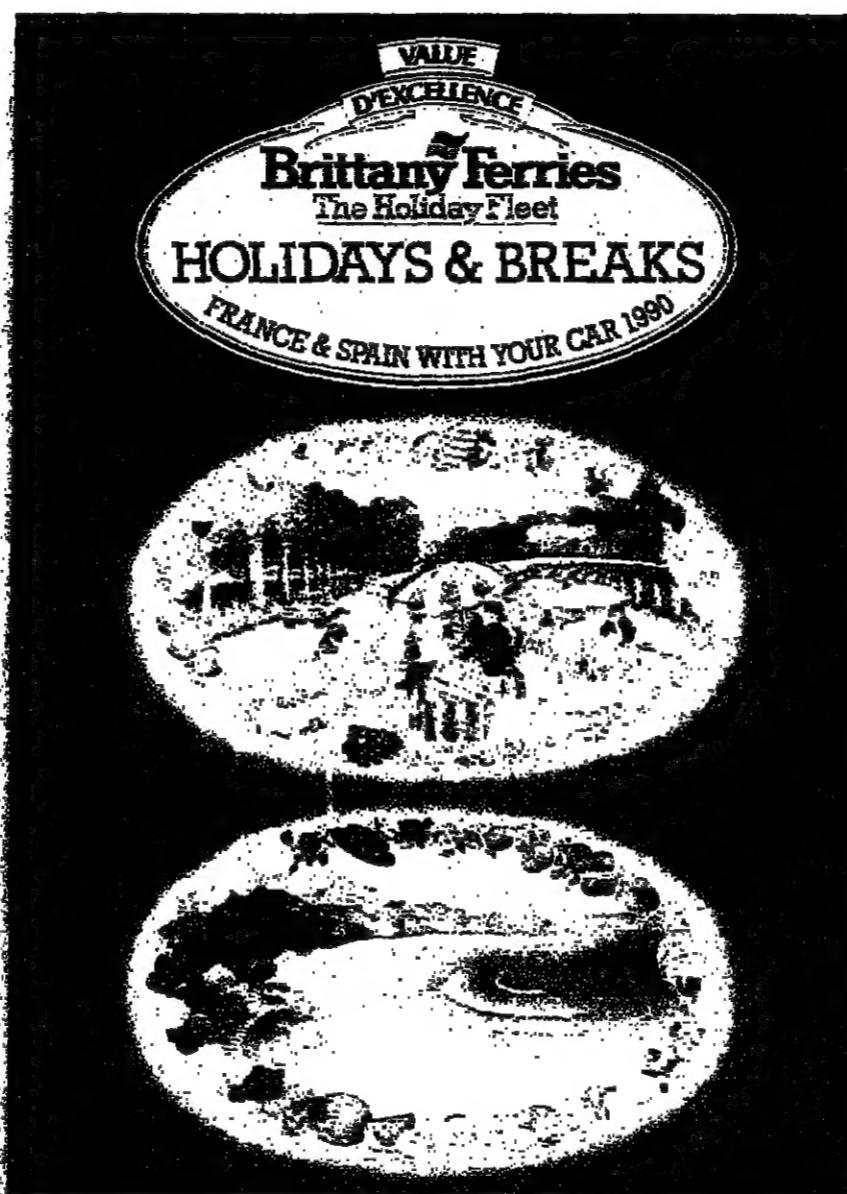
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Tinkering on sentencing won't empty jails, JPs say

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Radical government plans to shift sentencing policy away from custody towards more community-based punishments are unlikely to cut Britain's swollen prison population substantially, Mr John Hosking, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said yesterday.

He suggested that if ministers were serious about reducing the population they should risk incurring the wrath of the magistracy and judiciary and widen existing statutory restrictions covering the use of imprisonment.

"It is really not good enough for people to keep on saying we should not be sending people to prison and not actually enshrine that in law. The Government has given us certain powers and should not blame us if we use them," Mr

Hosking said. His comments, coming just weeks before the publication of the plans in a White Paper, underline fears voiced by probation officers that the Government's strategy will do little to cut Britain's jail population, one of the highest in Western Europe, and may even expand it.

The White Paper, widely seen as forestalling the biggest shake-up in the criminal justice system for a generation, has two aims: parole reform and the creation of a community-based punishment system based by new non-custodial sentences, some of which could involve curfews reinforced by electronic tagging of offenders. Min-

isters, opting for persuasion rather than coercion with sentences, have dismissed the idea of imposing extra legal curbs on the use of imprisonment or creating an independent "sentencing council", the course advocated by Labour MPs and penal reformers.

Mr Hosking said he had "much sympathy" with the Government as it tried to square the conflicting demands of a public which generally wanted stiffer penalties and of those who argued that prison was an ineffective and costly deterrent. However, he felt increasingly sceptical about whether the strategy would work.

Magistrates, he added, had been careful in their use of custody and had cooperated in initiatives which had helped over the past year to cut the jail population by about 2,100. It now stands at 46,000.

Under the Home Office's parole plans, people jailed for less than four years will be released automatically after serving half their sentence, a move which will expand the prison population by 4,000 if courts do not cut the number and length of penal sanctions. The majority of less serious offenders now get out of prison after serving a third of their terms.

The White Paper will additionally propose:

- Cuts in the statutory maximum sentences for theft from 14 years to 10 and for burglary from 10 years to seven;
- Measures to stem juvenile crime and foster greater parental responsibility;
- Creation of joint probation and community service order;
- Probation officers should recommend specific non-custodial sentences to courts.

Ministers also want to give courts the power to impose electronically monitored curfews on offenders, despite the setbacks being encountered in tagging trials in three areas. But a significant likely omission will be proposals to allow private firms to manage as well as run remand centres. The Home Office has decided that privatization would yield no cost savings.

Judge Pickles, who last week jailed a teenage mother for aiding shoplifters, said yesterday he was not afraid of making mistakes in sentencing (Quentin Cowdry writes).

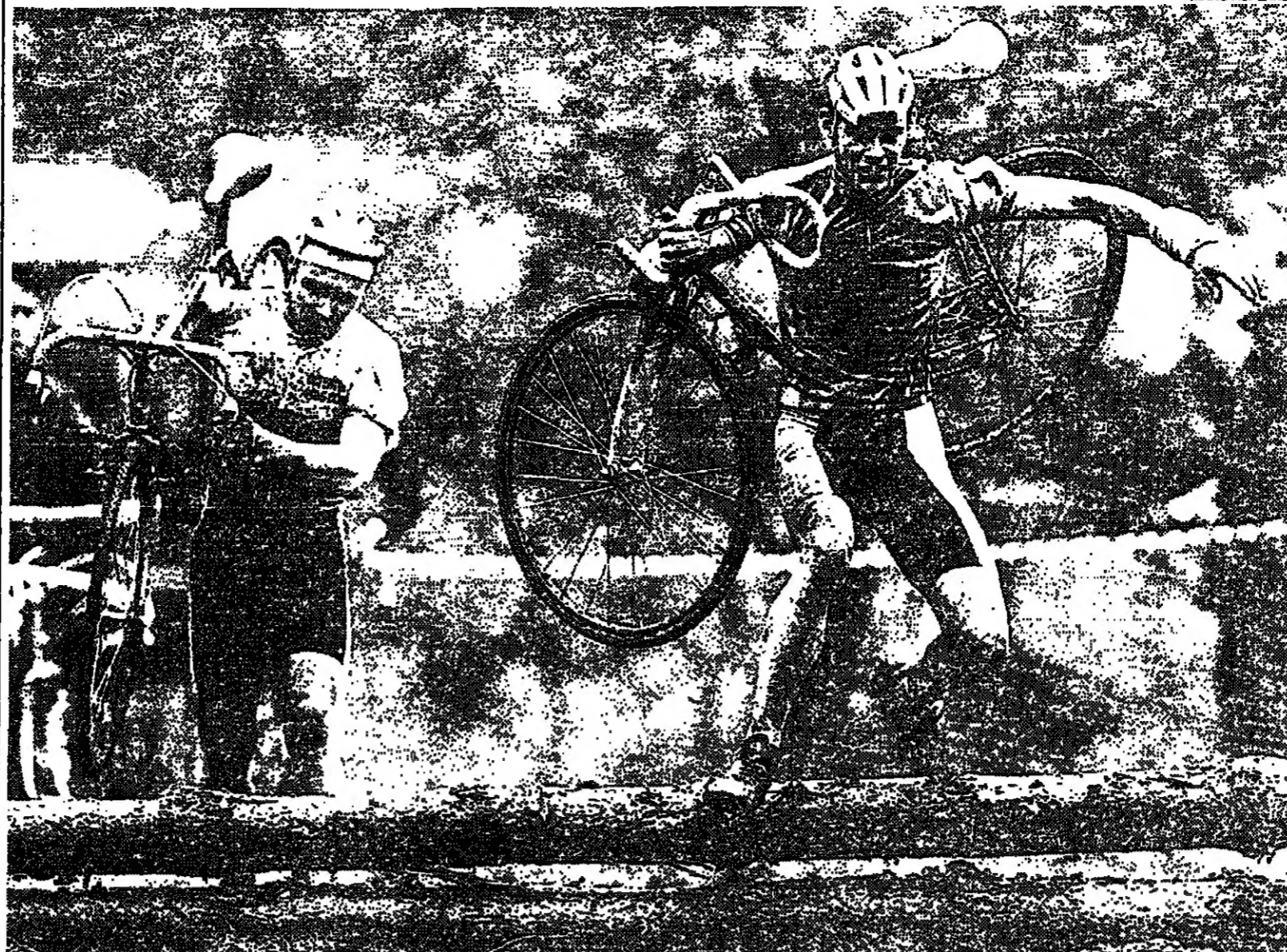
The judge, in an interview on TV-am's *David Frost on Sunday*, said: "In the end a judge decides what's right, what's just and what's fair, giving full reasons on both sides. If he's wrong, he's wrong."

While declining to comment on his latest decision, he voiced concern about the lack of sentencing guidelines. It was a "great pity" there was no legal expert who could lay down a proper sentencing policy. Sentencers had to trust their own judgement and the system, which allowed for errors to be corrected.

Judge Pickles was accused of acting over-harshly in jailing Tracy Scott, aged 19, from Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. She took her baby to prison with her. It was her first offence.

Mud and glory racers give their bicycles a lift

MARC ASPLAND



Weighed down by his bicycle and no little mud, Vince Stone is hotly pursued by another competitor as he clears a log barrier in the National Cyclo-cross Championship at Sutton Park, Birmingham. The race was won by David Baker, who will now contest the world title in Spain next month. Report, page 35

Queen sends tsar's treasures to Russia

The Queen is sending two Fabergé eggs to an exhibition in Moscow at the end of the month as a gesture of goodwill to the Russians.

It is the first time that treasures from her art collection have been lent to the Soviet Union and it represents a mark of friendship at the highest level. The eggs once belonged to one of her relatives, Tsar Nicholas II, who was murdered by the Bolsheviks in 1918.

The Queen's grandfather, King George V, was a first cousin of Tsar Nicholas. The exotically jewelled and brightly enamelled eggs were traditionally given by the tsar to his family at Easter.

The Colonnade Egg, in gold, silver and diamonds, conceived as an arcadian temple of love, commemorates the birth of the long-awaited heir to the throne in 1904. Four silver gilt cherubs seated at intervals round the base represent the tsar's daughters. It is 11½ in high and was presented to Tsarina Alexandra at Easter 1905. Queen Mary bought it for £500 in 1929.

The smaller Mosaic Egg was presented by the tsar to the tsarina at Easter 1914. It is an outstanding collection of gold, platinum, diamonds, emeralds, topazes, sapphires, garnets and pearls in floral patterns. It contains profiles of the five imperial children, who were later murdered. The egg was bought by King George V and Queen Mary in

1934. The eggs will go on display at a six-week exhibition which opens at the Armoury Museum in Moscow on January 30. They will be shown with eight other imperial eggs from the Soviet collection and a further nine lent by Mr Malcolm Forbes, the millionaire American owner of Forbes magazine, in the large

SALEROOM

By John Shaw

est gathering of this type of court art seen in the Soviet Union since before the revolution.

Mr John Browning, a Suffolk farmer from Icklingham, near Bury St Edmunds, who is fighting to obtain 16 ancient Roman bronzes allegedly stolen from his land seven years ago, said yesterday he was prepared to begin private legal proceedings in the United States to get them back.

The bronzes turned up last year at a gallery in New York. They included a silver figurine of a cheetah which was offered to the Getty Museum in California for £600,000.

A marble bust of Pope Gregory XV by Bernini, South Kensington, for £85 in a house-content sale at Swithland Hall, Leicestershire, in 1980, will be sold by Christie's in New York on Wednesday. It is estimated to fetch in excess of \$7 million.

Whitehall Brief

Responsibilities evaded by a lapse of 30 years

The biographer of R. A. Butler, Anthony Howard, remarked the other day that there is now a three-tier scheme for the public release of Cabinet secrets. There is what prime ministers, in office or out, choose to tell (or have told on their behalf by press secretaries and the like); and there are the memoirs of Cabinet ministers, who seem to be leaving less and less time between leaving office and cashing in on the publishing rewards of spilling the beans.

What that is going to mean, Mr Howard argued, is that what the public sees for itself 30 years late through the annual deposit of Cabinet records at the Public Record Office will increasingly look like old hat.

Leaving aside the fact that within a couple of years the PRO releases will have crept up to the years when Mr Howard was in his prime as a political reporter, giving him some interest in recollecting how little of the Cabinet's doings escaped the attention of journalists, his argument runs the risk of confusing the quantity of material released with its quality.

The 1959 Cabinet archives offer a case in point. The death in a British detention camp at Hola in Kenya of 11 Mau Mau prisoners must rank as one of the most inquired-into events in administrative his-

tory. To a succession of inquiries ordered by the government in Nairobi was added a sequence of Colonial Office and parliamentary inquiries from London. Yet, even now when we know how the Cabinet cynically resolved to handle the affair by putting maximum blame on junior officers in the field, the "truth" about the Hola deaths is still tangled. Not the fact of the beatings, but the event's administrative significance.

That is for one very good reason. The British system of ministerial infallibility willfully obscures the responsibility of civil servants for their own, and their masters' actions.

It was a nonsense in 1959 that Alan Lennox-Boyd, the colonial secretary, should pretend to responsibility for actions taken in a different Continent just as it is an administrative nonsense in 1990 for Mr Kenneth Clarke to appear to be running the National Health Service and its industrial relations disputes singlehandedly.

In imperial administration, the nonsense was half-recognized. Government in Kenya reposed on the patrician shoulders of Sir Evelyn Baring, the governor. Was he, then, responsible for Hola? A lot of ink has been spilled on that question, several gallons of it from the pen of the former editor of *The Times*.

Charles Douglas-Home, who was one of Baring's aides at the time.

Baring certainly approved a policy of decanting as rapidly as possible from the Kenyan detention camps as many former Mau Mau as could be "rehabilitated", which turned out to be remarkably successful. The killings at Hola (of black prisoners by black warders under white supervision) were a mere appendix to that broad policy of rehabilitation; but when the balloon went up, the positive achievements were forgotten in the race to find scapegoats.

Until the full story of Hola is written, it is impossible to pin responsibility for what may have been a single administrative failure in the midst of policy success. The record was obscured by the response of the Kenyan government machine to the killings: crude denials followed by dishonourable attempts to implicate executive officers.

To contemporary civil servants and ministers whose mistakes may be less fatal than that at Hola in 1959 but no less worthy of labelling, such a time gap between perpetration and final allocation of responsibility may appear to be the same as evading responsibility altogether.

David Walker

Surgeons give boy ear made of silicon

A boy aged nine who was born with one ear has been given a second one made from silicon, at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital. Surgeons used a technique developed in Sweden to give Richard Webb, of Askrham, Cumbria, the new ear, made from a model of his sister's ear.

An implant of titanium, which bonds with human bone, was put into the boy's skull. Once the metal had bonded, the silicon ear was fixed to it. The operation has not affected his hearing which was already perfect.

Richard's mother, Mrs Diana Webb, said yesterday: "A whole new life has opened up for him. The ear is so good that even his grandparents couldn't tell it was artificial."

Potato prices rise by 30%

Potato prices have risen by 30 per cent over the past year, according to official figures. Supermarkets are selling them at about 18p a pound compared with 14p 12 months ago.

According to the Potato Marketing Board, prices in England and Wales vary from 8p a pound to 20p. In January 1989 the range was 5p to 10p. The board says the cheapest varieties have gone up by 60 per cent. Potatoes still form the mainstay of the national diet, with average consumption of 250lb per person a year.

Police inquiry

Two North Yorkshire policemen have been suspended from duty as a result of an alleged fracas in the Coach Inn, Micklegate, York, before Christmas. Two civilians were also arrested during the incident, which is being investigated.

Flying fears

A clinical psychologist is being used to help people overcome a fear of flying on courses being run at Heathrow, Manchester, and City (London) airports. In a recent survey the Consumer's Association found 53 per cent of people were nervous about flying.

Oil warning

Cooking oil held in thousands of plastic five-litre drums washed up on the south Cornwall coast could be dangerous, Mr Mike Shearer, the area's trading standards officer, said yesterday.

Air service

Tyrolean Airways' new scheduled air ambulance service based at Luton has already flown more than a dozen injured British skiers home from the Alps.

Bond winners

The winner of the £100,000 prize in the weekly Premium Bond draw announced on Saturday was the holder of 5LP 665130, who lives in South Yorkshire. The £50,000 prize went to IGS 750188, from Cardiff, and the £25,000 prize to 27BK 372890, from Huddersfield.

Complete list of Government

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Minister for Sport	Mr Douglas Hurd
Secretary of State	Mr William Waldegrave
Ministers of State	Mr Francis Maude
	Lord Brabazon of Tara
	Mr Tim Sainsbury

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Minister of State	Mr William Waldegrave
Under Secretaries of State	Mr Francis Maude
	Lord Brabazon of Tara
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Under Secretaries of State	Mr Roger Freeman
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Ministers of State	Mr John Patten
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Attorney General	Lord Fraser of Carmyllie
Lord Advocate	Sir Nicholas Lyell
	Mr Alan Rodger

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Solicitor General for Scotland	Mr Peter Brooke
	Mr John Cope
	Mr Richard Needham
	Dr Brian Mawhinney
	Mr Peter Bottomley
	Lord Skelmersdale

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Minister of State	Mr John Cope
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	Dr Brian Mawhinney
	Mr Peter Bottomley
	Lord Skelmersdale

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Minister for Overseas Development	Mrs Lynda Chalker
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Paymaster General's Department

Paymaster General	The Earl of Caithness
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	The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne

Second Church Estates

Commissioner, representing Church Commissioners	Mr Michael Allison
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New East bloc regimes facing clamour for faster reform

Romanians warn of new revolt

New Forum issues strike ultimatum to Government

From Christopher Walker and Michael Hornsby, Bucharest

Students who were in the vanguard of last month's uprising in Romania yesterday reappeared in public for the first time to voice discontent with the composition and policies of the ruling National Salvation Front.

They warned of new mass protests if the leadership failed to meet their demands. "We can repeat Timisoara, we can repeat Bucharest," one student shouted.

Their protest on the outskirts of the city, and a demonstration in the centre by the youth branch of the National Peasants Party, have exposed serious splits about the way Romania should be governed in the wake of the Ceausescu overthrow.

There are increasingly loud complaints that too many men in the previous regime have retained positions of power, and allegations that despite anti-communist slogans daubed around Bucharest, an administration with similar characteristics has begun to take shape.

Observers believe that the disagreement reflects problems left by Ceausescu's dictatorial style of government. "In many cases, the only

people with the necessary experience are those who played a part in earlier governments," a diplomat said.

More than 4,000 students gathered yesterday at the Polytechnic building west of the capital to demand sweeping changes in education policy and to complain about lack of representation on the country's new ruling bodies.

In scenes reminiscent of the 1968 students' revolt in Paris,

Warsaw (Reuters) - Poland's Communist Party leaders have agreed to dissolve their party to form a "democratic socialist party" stripped of Marxism. A meeting on Saturday of the central committee of the Polish United Workers Party approved the agenda for a congress that will disband the party on January 27.

The protesters gathered in a huge auditorium to hear their leaders attack the administration for imposing a new education programme without consultation, and for the fact that its members had been appointed rather than elected.

There were ringing cheers when a student leader from Timisoara, the town where the uprising began threatened new

street demonstrations against the Government unless all the students' demands were met. "And us. And us," the Bucharest students chanted rhythmically from the floor.

Speakers repeatedly emphasized the part which students had played in the fighting which toppled Ceausescu. A number of those attending the demonstration, the first in Romania since the revolution, were nursing wounds received in gun battles.

The students, who accused the new leadership of refusing to legalize their proposed union, submitted a list of 10 demands. These included the right not to attend individual classes and lectures, an end to military training, and 30 per cent student representation on the management boards of higher education institutions.

Looking on unhappily from a first-floor balcony was Mr Gheorghe Manole, chairman of the new Commission for Science and Education and one of the 11 members of the executive committee of the National Salvation Front, which is effectively running Romania until elections.

Far from being treated as a hero by the students, Mr Manole, a doctor until his

elevation to power, was being largely ignored. His efforts to open a dialogue with his critics failed, and a number shouted their complaints at him personally.

Among the protesters was Mr Sorin Burches, aged 21, an engineering student who was among those who quickly became national figures after the seizure of the television building in the centre of Bucharest.

"We are determined to maintain the mentality of the barricades and to ensure that there is no complacency or slipping back into old habits," he said.

A student member of the administration was jeered when he addressed the crowd, some of whom were angry that he had given interviews to the Western media without consulting other students.

"The people here do not think it fair that those first on the scene in the takeover of the radio and television building should have been the ones appointed as temporary rulers of the country," another student said.

Elsewhere in the capital, about 500 supporters of the National Peasants Party marched in sub-zero tem-

peratures through the streets to mourn those killed in the recent fighting and to call for "free and fair elections".

"We are marching in memory of the martyrs and to save the rights they died for," Mr Mihai Georgescu, aged 37, an engineer, said. "We do not trust the new Government because they are not telling us the truth. The National Salvation Front said at first that it would not contest the elections, but just organize them. Now it says it is going to take part. There will not be fair elections because the front controls the radio and television and has taken over all the property of the Communist Party."

Free movement: Bucharest and Moscow have taken steps to defuse tension at their border, arising from agitation by the Romanian-speaking population of Soviet Moldavia for incorporation into Romania.

In a one-day visit to Bucharest at the weekend, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, assured the Romanian Government that free movement would be allowed across the border between northern Romania and Soviet Moldavia.

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

New Forum, East Germany's main opposition group, yesterday threatened to call a general strike later this month if the communist-led Government does not slacken its grip on power.

At a national conference in Leipzig, New Forum called on the Government to allow all opposition groups new participating in round-table talks more involvement in important decisions. It also said that the Government should be financially accountable to the non-communist groups in the country.

Some delegates at the conference demanded that the Government should offer proof that the Stasi, the state security service, was being actively disbanded and disarmed after rumours spread that the communists intended to restore the service.

New Forum has given the Government until January 24 to prove that it is serious about sharing power, failing that, a national work stoppage is to be called. A general strike would cripple the East German economy, already limping along on reduced manpower as a result

of the exodus of workers to the West.

Herr Heiko Litz, the New Forum spokesman, said he hoped the strike would not be necessary but added: "We consider it important to keep our strike call as one of our options."

It is not yet clear how much support a strike would have among workers, who fear that living standards will fall still lower if economic unrest becomes widespread.

The strike threat marks the end of the uneasy alliance between the Government and opposition groups in the country and will exacerbate the already tense atmosphere at the round-table talks between them as they resume today in East Berlin.

The reformed Socialist Unity (communist) Party, under Herr Gregor Gysi, its charismatic leader, has undergone an unexpected popular revival after ridding itself of its Stalinist old guard, and opinion polls now predict that it will win between a quarter and a third of the votes in May.

Opposition groups claim that this is thanks to the

party's well-oiled political machine and its continuing monopoly of the mass media. "The party still runs the bulk of the media and the main offices in the country," Herr Konrad Weiss of the Democracy Now group said yesterday. "That is the way it is now."

The communist campaign has been given added impetus by reports of neo-Nazi attacks. Horrifying but hazy investigations of fascist activities have been splashed across the official media in the past week.

The Government insists that a central intelligence service is necessary to fight the trend - a proposal which has not won support from opposition groups, who fear that this would mean the revival of the Stasi under another name.

Herr Rolf Hendrich, a founding member of New Forum, yesterday accused the communists of a scare campaign, saying that they had raised the spectre of an extremist right-wing revival in the country to increase their party's profile.

Uprising gives new life to desperate mothers and orphans

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

Lawrentia Macarescu, aged three, left the grim, 19th-century surroundings of Bucharest's Orphanage No 1, the largest in Europe, on Saturday to begin his new life in France. He is one of the first of Romania's unnaturally large population of orphans permitted to be adopted by foreign foster parents in more than two years.

On the other side of a city, Mrs Maria Dolce, the mother of two children, was recovering from a hysterectomy performed after complications when she had an illegal abortion to get rid of a third child she could not afford to feed or clothe.

Both were victims of draconian restrictions imposed on the private lives of Romanians by the late dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu. Those curbs have now been swept away by decrees which allow foreign adoptions to resume, legalize abortions, permit contraception and open the way for Aids testing on a national scale.

As well as removing the Securitate agents, whose cruel bedside interrogations were part of life for patients in every gynaecological ward, the reforms have permitted Romanian doctors to expose Ceausescu's deliberate cover-up of the spread of Aids in a country where the ban on condoms outlawed one of the main precautions. The doctors claim that Romania supplied false statistics on Aids to the World Health Organization.

Dr Alexandru Anca, senior gynaecologist at the capital's Municipal Hospital, said that a survey conducted among 482 children in Bucharest had shown that almost 30 were HIV positive. "The results were denounced by Ceausescu, who forbade them to be followed by any more tests," the doctor said. "His view was that if there were no figures, the disease could not exist. We knew otherwise."

Psychologists claim that the lifting of the ban on birth control has removed tension from tens of thousands of poor families where achieving the state's goal of five children was economically impossible. Hungary and Switzerland are two countries offering to assist with contraceptive devices and Aids-testing equipment.

Ceausescu's ban on adoption by foreigners, blamed by officials on a fit of pique brought on by criticism of Romania's human rights record by Western radio stations, meant that children like Lawrentia had to remain in state care.

"The number of orphans is certain to drop as our women

are no longer being forced to bear unwanted children; as foreigners are able to carry through adoption procedures agreed before 1987 and Romanian couples feel able to adopt children of their own," said Dr Maria Filon, chief medical officer at Orphanage No 1, the largest of five in the capital.

The institution, whose Dickensian connotations are offset by the caring attitude of the staff (who joyously ripped up all the mandatory portraits of the Ceausescus on December 22) houses 718 children. About 60 of these will soon leave under adoption agreements made with families in France, Italy, Belgium, Israel and the United States.

"Since the revolution, we have had many inquiries from British families wanting to adopt a child, but we are not able to give any answers," Dr Filon said. "The Government's initial decision was to lift the ban for children whose documents had been completed. Guidelines for the rest will be issued after the elections in April."

The controversy over Romania's large number of orphans has been heightened by the claim that Ceausescu recruited many members of his detested personal bodyguard from among their number to maximize their loyalty. These were the fighters, now described here as "terrorists", responsible for the most bitter fighting before his downfall.

Since the lifting of the ban on abortions (only permitted under Ceausescu for women over 45 or those who had already borne five children), hospitals have been besieged by women seeking legal and professional termination of their pregnancies.

Because of the dearth of facilities, many share a bat-



single room (with no lavatory or kitchen) she shared with her husband and two daughters, aged under three.

"Unfortunately, our wards still contain many victims of the dictator's lunatic restrictions, which we as doctors were forced to carry through although virtually none of us agreed with them," Dr Anca said. "Many thousands of those forced to back-street abortions suffered sterility. The unluckiest died."

Women, he said, were often too frightened to seek treat-

ment because they knew there were security agents in the wards.

The story told by Mrs Dolce, aged 29, the wife of a non-commissioned army officer, was typical of those to be heard in the overcrowded sixth-floor wing.

Other women nodded in agreement as she explained how under austere food and energy programme of the Ceausescu regime, she felt unable to have her third child.

"I already had a girl of six and a boy of a year-and-a-half. I felt that if I had another, they would both suffer, as it was almost impossible to provide

the two with milk, meat and other essential foods - to say nothing of paying for electricity to keep our home warm."

Mrs Dolce, who came close to death before her operation, added: "If only it had happened after the revolution, things would have been different and I would still have the prospect of one day having more children if we could afford it."

Dr Anca told how the Securitate agents assigned to his wing would interrogate patients who came for treatment after illegal abortions had failed.

"Every case was liable to be put before the prosecutor. The questioning was often heavy-handed and insensitive, but we could do nothing to stop it," he said.

"The worst madness was that most of our budget went to dealing with the results of failed abortions instead of helping with normal births."

The doctor, wearing the standard maroon dress-gown to keep out the bitter cold, claimed that the revolution had transformed every aspect of hospital life. "For women, living in Romania was a nightmare," he said. "Now people smile again and look each other in the face, rather than keeping a perpetual hang-dog expression. The main thing it has done is to make us all more civilized."

Mother-love: French adoptive parents showing their joy after being united at Orly Airport outside Paris with the 63 Romanian children from a Budapest orphanage whom they have adopted. As the children flew to France in a specially chartered Boeing 727, 36 others arrived in Warsaw and 18 more in Rome (Reuters reports from Paris). Saturday's emotional welcomes came after years of waiting.

Nicolae Ceausescu, Romania's late dictator, had refused to let the children leave the country and, French officials say, was using them as diplomatic pawns before his downfall and execution last month. Under an agreement with the new Romanian Government, the aircraft, chartered by the French Foreign Ministry, left early on Saturday for Bucharest and returned with the children in the early evening. One member of each French family concerned was on board the Bucharest flight along with Foreign Ministry officials and Red Cross workers.



Germans in agreement on troops withdrawal

From Ian Murray, Bonn

West German political parties from the Government and opposition are pressing for disarmament and a rapid change in Nato - much in line with the ideas put forward at the weekend by Herr Gregor Gysi, leader of East Germany's communists.

He called on Saturday for the halving of the forces of both countries by next year and the withdrawal of foreign troops from the two Germanies by the turn of the century.

The present West German strength is 495,000 and the East German forces number 180,000. The Soviet Union keeps 380,000 troops in East Germany, while Nato bases 246,000 Americans, 67,000 British and 30,000 French in West Germany, plus another 11,000 in a joint force in Berlin.

Herr Gysi's proposals, called "Security 2000", are aimed to appeal to right-wing desires for German unity; to exploit growing resentment at the presence of foreign troops; and to encourage left-wing and environmentalists campaigning against nuclear and chemical weapons.

"Both German states must make a beginning with demilitarization in central Europe," he said. He added for the benefit of the many who are eager for the reunification his own party opposes: "Without an end to military rivalry between the two German states, any talk of unity of the nation is not credible."

The ideas, which must have been discussed and cleared with Moscow, dealt with the future of the Nato and Warsaw Pact forces. "The allies are urged to prepare their troops for complete withdrawal by stages by 1999, beginning with the border areas," he said.

In this he reopened the vigorous debate which raged in West Germany 40 years ago. The Christian Democrats then argued that the country needed to be inside Nato to ensure it was free from Soviet domination. The Social Democrats insisted Nato membership would be a bar to German unity. The Christian Democrats prevailed and West Germany joined Nato in 1955, but there has always been a worry in Nato that the Soviet Union might play the "German card", offering unity in return for neutrality.

Travellers find their tongues on the slow train to Transylvania

From Roger Boyes, Cluj, Romania

The slow train to Transylvania winds down the valley, then picks up speed, buffeting the farmers in the corridor and upsetting the balance of the young soldiers who are supposed to protect us from a Securitate ambush.

Inside the compartment there are six adults, three children and a cardboard suitcase full of meat, which steadily oozes pig's blood. It was the first time that these Romanians had been able to talk to foreigners and they burst with conversation.

The last big Romanian train ride, five years ago, was a shock. We had chatted amiably until the conductor arrived. Then one of my fellow passengers jumped up and blurted out: "I wish to report that I have conversed with a foreigner. We discussed the weather and

the Romanian landscape." This confession had been followed by others in the compartment. The conductor had dutifully written it all down for the Securitate and the journey had continued in silence.

This time it was different. For one thing, the heating was on full blast. The Ceausescu regulation to turn off train boilers has been revoked. How will Romania bridge the energy gap? Nobody knows, but people are warm and the revolution lives on credit.

Then there are the farmers. They can now slaughter their livestock, take the meat to market and pick up high prices, but there is not enough petrol to drive lorries between towns, so the peasants take the train, filling it to the brim.

For many, it was their first outing from their farmsteads since the Christmas revolution; most of them tucked themselves into their houses and

watched ET on television until the shooting stopped.

And now: A foreigner! But what to ask him?

Queen good?

Bobby Robson good?

At last a teacher is brought from down the corridor. We talk about the blood; the blood of the revolution rather than the pig's blood that is making a small burgundy lake between our feet.

What do the Romanians want now?

Freedom.

What kind of freedom?

Like in the West.

What kind of government?

Strong.

Strong like Ceausescu?

Strong like Britain: Queen, Prime Minister, Parliament.

Not for the first time in a decade of

travelling in East Europe, I found that most of the passengers believe the Queen is called Margaret, even though a certain Queen Elizabeth congratulated Ceausescu on his birthday. Amusement in the compartment when I explain that the birthday telegram was a forgery.

The farmers, at least, want King Michael to return to Romania. They will not criticize the revolutionary leadership (old habits die hard) but they certainly do not want Communists any more; not even the new-look, open-shirted, brand. It was King Michael who ordered the arrest of Marshal Antonescu in 1944, and who struck a kind of peace with the Soviet Union and the allies.

In 1947 he was forced to abdicate. By 1988 conditions in Ceausescu's Romania had deteriorated so much that he started openly to denounce the dictator as a Pol Pot.

The restoration of the monarchy

worked well in post-Franco Spain and King Michael certainly has more experience of the West than many of the present revolutionary leadership.

Would the students accept a monarchy? Would the old communists?

Stockholm (Reuters) - Mr Alexander Debeek, said yesterday that he wanted to make sure that the democratic process in Czechoslovakia could never be reversed. Mr Debeek, who is the parliamentary chairman, told the *Svenska Dagbladet*, a daily newspaper, that the goals were social justice and the growth of society.

reform in the revolutionary government? On the basis of a train ride, it seems as though the farmers anyway would be happy to see the restoration of the monarchy. The king would have to live modestly, the public revulsion at the Ceausescu family's grand, imperial life-

style is still the driving emotion of the revolution.

Farmers, though, are becoming more and more important to Romania as they build up their own national agrarian party, and make the country again one of East Europe's biggest per capita food producers. If the farmers want the king back, who is to gainsay them?

The train slows again. Outside, in the snow, forces are pulling open carts, moving slightly faster than the Transylvanian flyer.

"We still have a long way to go," said the teacher.

"To Cluj?" I asked, as if not understanding.

"To the future."

One of the peasants nods vigorously and spits on the floor.

"Also to Cluj, a long way," he says.

The pool of pig's blood was spreading further, almost touching our shoes.

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Bulgarians at anti-Muslim rally shout down leader

Sofia (Reuters) — Thousands of Bulgarians opposed to the restoration of Muslim rights demanded the Communist Government's resignation and shouted down Mr Georgi Atanasov, the Prime Minister, at a nationalist rally here yesterday.

"Never again a Bulgaria under the Turkish yoke", the crowd of about 6,000 chanted outside the capital's Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. "Victory, victory", they shouted as they waved red, green and white Bulgarian flags before falling to their knees in silent tribute to the 19th-century heroes of independence.

But Mr Atanasov told the protesters: "If we all as Bulgarians want to be free, then all the people must be free. The decision (to grant religious rights to Muslims) is not the end but the beginning of dialogue on the ethnic problem." His voice was all but drowned by angry shouting.

The demonstrators, many of whom travelled to Sofia from a dozen towns and villages, braved freezing temperatures in the capital to join the protest.

The nationalist unrest, which has spread throughout the country in the past week, began after the new Communist leadership decided on December 29 to restore cultural and religious rights to the country's 1.5 million ethnic Turks, so reversing a decades-old assimilation campaign.

Under Mr Todor Zhivkov, the discredited former leader, who was toppled late last year after ruling the country in autocratic and eccentric style for 35 years, ethnic Turks were forced to assume Bulgarian names and their mosques were closed.

Mr Petur Mladenov, the reformist Communist Party leader, aware of the need to enhance Bulgaria's image abroad as the country moves towards democracy, reversed

Mr Zhivkov's policy, unleashing the present wave of nationalism in this mainly peasant nation of nine million people.

Opposition leaders have accused anti-reformists within the party of tacitly supporting the anti-Turkish unrest in order to sidetrack the democratic process, which already lags behind other East bloc countries.

Mr Atanas Dimitrov, vice-president of the National Assembly, said a special parliamentary committee would meet church leaders and representatives of the anti-Turkish protesters today to discuss the matter.

But yesterday's protesters added new demands to a call for a referendum on the ethnic issue. They now want a constitutional guarantee to preserve Bulgaria's heritage as one nation, one language and one religion.

The Communist Party, which has relinquished its previous automatic monopoly on power and called for free elections this year, has stood by its decision to grant equal rights to all Bulgarians.

ANKARA: Turkey will this week test the intentions of Bulgaria's new leaders on rights for ethnic Turks, Mr Mesut Yilmaz, the Foreign Minister, said at the weekend.

"Turkey will respond to every positive step that Bulgaria takes in this regard," he said on Saturday as he left for Bahrain on his way to talks in Kuwait on Tuesday with Mr Boyko Dimitrov of Bulgaria.

The meeting will be the second in a series which began before the downfall of Mr Zhivkov.

According to a Foreign Ministry source here who asked not to be identified, Turkey's main aim at the Kuwait meeting will be to persuade the Bulgarians at least to acknowledge formally the existence there of a Muslim minority, if not an ethnic Turkish one.

Orthodox service broadcast on Soviet TV



Patriarch Pimen celebrating the Russian Orthodox Christmas at Moscow cathedral on Saturday. Moscow television broadcast the service in a new sign of official recognition of the importance of religion to millions of Russians (Reuters reports).

It was the first time that a religious service of any kind had been televised

live at length in the Soviet Union. The broadcast, which lasted for almost an hour, formed part of a programme from the Bolshoi Theatre marking last year's celebrations of the millennium of Christianity in Russia and the Ukraine.

Earlier, in another departure, Russian Orthodox Patriarch Pimen was

given time on Moscow Radio to send Christmas greetings to the Soviet people. "Dear compatriots, on the bright and joyous day of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this holiday of peace and divine love I address to you these words of greeting and best wishes," he said.

The Russian Orthodox, together

with other Eastern rite churches, celebrates Christmas two weeks after Catholic and Protestant churches.

LONDON: Bible societies have been inundated with mass orders from the Eastern bloc. (Nicholas Watt writes). It is estimated that 100 million Bibles are needed in the long term to satisfy the new demand.

Society to defend Stalin is formed

From Nick Worrall Moscow

A society to defend the memory of Stalin has been founded in Gori, his home town, in the republic of Georgia, according to a local youth newspaper.

Molodiyozh Gruzii, the newspaper, said the founding congress of the society was held in the town on December 21. It was attended by delegates from all over the Soviet Union.

The society is apparently the most recent attempt by Stalin's remaining supporters to defend him against regular vilification in the Soviet media and from revelations of the horrors of his rule.

Stalin died in 1953 after 30 years as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

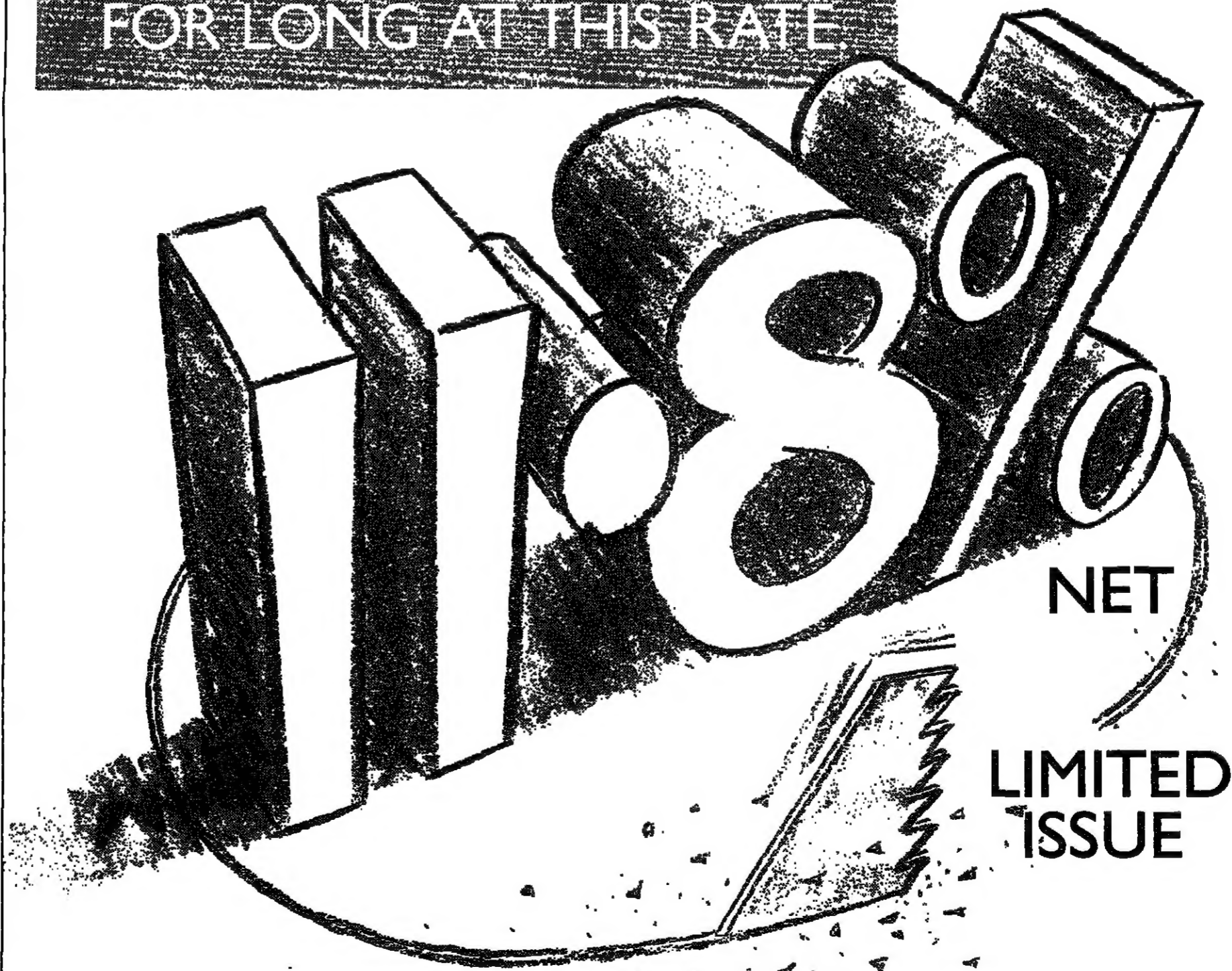
As Soviet leader he was responsible for the deaths and vilification of his leading political rivals and millions of Soviet citizens died during his rule, many of them in prisons and labour camps.

Mr Dmitri Volkogonov, the historian, places the number of dead between 20 and 22 million, while Mr Roy Medvedev, another historian, believes the figure could have been as high as 40 million.

But a pamphlet distributed at the Gori meeting said under Stalin "people felt that with every day their life was becoming better and more beautiful".

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Liberia massacre claim by chief

Damame, Ivory Coast (AFP) — Government troops and rebels have killed hundreds of residents of Liberia's Nimba County during fighting near the Ivory Coast border since December 24, eye witnesses said here yesterday. On Friday, Brigadier-General Edward Smith, the army commander, told President Doe that anti-government forces massacred 200 villagers in Butuo, where the fighting began.

But Chief Denis Seu, aged 55, said by telephone from his hospital bed here that the troops had killed a number of his villagers. He described how soldiers in uniform ordered him to sit on the floor of his house with the local commissioner and his wife. The officers took their identity papers, asked them how the rebels entered the village, shot dead the commissioner and his wife and shot the chief in the leg, leaving him to die. He escaped by crawling away.

Suspect changes story

Compiègne, France (AFP) — A man who allegedly confessed last year to murdering an English holidaymaker near here is innocent, the suspect's brother has told a French daily newspaper. M Patrice Blancke made the claim in the Oise edition of *Le Parisien* on Saturday, after speaking to his brother Frederic, who is in police custody on charges of murdering Fiona Jones. She disappeared on August 14. M Patrice Blancke said his brother saw a man attacking a woman near the road between Compiègne and nearby Bellenheime, where Mrs Jones was staying with her husband, Mark. The attacker, he said, caught sight of Frederic Blancke then released the woman. The other man "then took out a weapon, went for my brother and threatened him", he said.

Disaster tampering

Sungi, Pakistan (Reuters) — Investigators have found that alterations were made to a record of signals given to the express train which crashed last week, killing some 300 people, Mr Zafar Ali Leghari, Pakistan's Railways Minister said. "The tampered record connected with signalling has been seized," he said here, in the southern province of Sind, where the crash occurred. He said preliminary investigations had shown that the train was given a green signal to pass through number three track, where it ploughed into a stationary freight train. Mr Leghari said the record was later tampered with to show the train was allowed to pass through number four track. Opposition parties have demanded Mr Leghari's resignation over the crash.

Britons hurt in crash

Compiègne (AP) — A bus carrying British tourists home from a skiing holiday in the French Alps ran off a motorway yesterday in northern France, crashing into a ditch. Fourteen of the passengers were injured in the crash, the French police said. No other vehicle was involved in the accident, which apparently happened because the driver fell asleep on the Paris-Lille autoroute near Compiègne, the officers said. Most of the passengers were able to continue their journey to Bristol and Nottingham after being treated for minor injuries either in hospital or at the roadside. Three of the tourists who were seriously injured, were still being treated at Compiègne hospital yesterday.

Beirut chain of protest

West Beirut — About 50,000 Christian men, women and children held hands across east Beirut on Saturday in a 15-mile-long human chain linking the residence of General Michel Aoun with the Vatican embassy, north of the capital (A Correspondent writes). They were protesting against the continued detention of Lebanese and foreign hostages by the various Muslim warring militias here. Many waved Lebanon's red white and green flags and chanted the national anthem. Christian soldiers, guarded the demonstrators along the route of the human chain.

Reservations over Thatcher aide's secret Peking trip

By Michael Evans

Fresh diplomatic efforts will be made this week to boost confidence in Hong Kong after it was confirmed that Sir Percy Cradock, the Prime Minister's personal foreign affairs adviser, went on a secret visit to Peking early last month to meet the Chinese leadership.

Sir Percy, a Mandarin-speaking former ambassador to China and a special adviser to Mrs Thatcher since 1984, spent several days in Peking attempting to assess the likely reaction to the Government's imminent announcement on British nationality rights for selected Hong Kong citizens.

The Government's offer to give British passports to 225,000 people in the colony was announced on December 20, about two weeks after Sir Percy had returned to London. Peking, which regains sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997, condemned the decision as a gross violation of agreements between China and Britain.

Sir Percy's trip was the first by such a high-ranking British official since the Tiananmen Square massacre in June. Ministerial visits are still banned under a European Community decision.

Foreign Office sources emphasized yesterday that a number of British officials had been to Peking since June and others planned to go soon. It was considered vital, they said, to maintain a dialogue with China.

The United States, Japan

and other European countries have adopted the same policy. It was disclosed last month that Mr Brent Scowcroft, the US National Security Adviser, had visited Peking secretly a month after the massacre.

With relations between London and Peking remaining prickly, it is hoped that two key visits this week, one by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, to Hong Kong, and the other by Sir David Wilson, the colony's Governor, to Peking, will help to improve the atmosphere.

Mr Hurd is leaving on Friday and will stay until the following Tuesday. He is expected to face a difficult time, despite the offer of passports to 225,000 citizens. Mr Hurd will emphasize that the Government made the announcement to encourage the colony's administrators to stay in their posts.

Sir David is flying to Peking on Wednesday.

Yesterday Mr David Howell, Conservative chairman of the Commons foreign affairs committee, said the visit by Sir Percy to Peking may not have been very successful, judging by the Chinese response to the Government's nationality package.

Mr Howell, speaking on BBC Radio's *The World This Week*, said that Hong Kong was "in Peking's bad books" and that the Chinese had done behind the scenes to alter that until China's leadership changed.

Mr Howell said the British

and Hong Kong administrations were trying to "walk a real tightrope" in their relations with Peking. If they were too friendly to Peking, it would be seen as a "betrayal" in the colony. Yet if they were too provocative it would encourage China to continue with its present "strident criticisms".

Neither Number 10 nor the Foreign Office would give details of Sir Percy's visit to Peking. He did not carry any personal message from Mrs Thatcher, but sources indicated that all aspects of the Hong Kong issue were raised.

These included the rights of certain Hong Kong citizens to leave with their families and live in Britain, although Sir Percy would not have been in a position to give details of the package being proposed by the Government.

In Hong Kong yesterday, the disclosure of Sir Percy's trip was welcomed, but there were some reservations about the secrecy which had surrounded it.

Miss Elsie Tu, a legislative councillor, said: "Keeping things secret is not the best way, but with things the way they are in Hong Kong at the moment we need more high-level contacts between Britain and China."

Mr Martin Lee, a liberal Hong Kong legislator, said he had nothing against secret meetings so long as the interests of Hong Kong were not betrayed. But he added: "From track records, I have reason to be suspicious."

US scales down Panama detention centre



Panamaitians removing wire fencing at the detention centre at Howard air force base yesterday. The number of prisoners has been cut from 1,500 to 600.

Intelligence gaffes 'kept Noriega at liberty'

From Peter Stothard
US Editor, Washington

The failure of American forces to identify General Manuel Noriega as he left a prostitute's hotel room on the night they invaded Panama last month may have extended "Operation Just Cause" and added to civilian casualties, congressional sources investigating the campaign said.

Pentagon officials have told congressional leaders that General Noriega, the former dictator now in custody in Miami, probably left the hotel in a car whose headlights were spotted by two paratroopers near Tocumen Airport, one of the US assault points.

News of the "missed

chance" to seize the general emerged as the Bush Administration came under increased criticism for its imprecision about the scale of civilian casualties while he was being hunted.

Mr Ramsey Clark, a former US Attorney General, said the true figure was several thousand dead, some 10 times more than official estimates, adding: "The cover-up shows more than mere indifference."

Most of the casualties occurred around the Commandancia, General Noriega's main military headquarters in Panama City, which was one of the sites to which he was thought to have fled.

Its ruins were inspected on Friday by General Colin Pow-

ell, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as he attempted to piece together for himself the full story of how the fugitive eluded his captors.

Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, the Deputy Secretary of State, said that he "resented and rejected" Mr Clark's accusation, and that the US had "nothing to apologize for".

Mr Brent Scowcroft, the National Security Adviser, was more cautious, however, saying Mr Clark's estimate was "probably quite high".

Accounts attributed to Miss Vicki Amado, Noriega's mistress, say the general reported calmly to early reports that he was under attack. He evaded US surveillance before the invasion sim-

ply by driving home from a trip to the country rather than flying as expected. His visit to the prostitute was said to have been "routine".

Although the invasion has been a popular success in both America and Panama the Bush Administration will face tough questioning.

The Defence Department, for example, is being charged with unnecessarily using Stealth technology to justify its place in the budget.

There have also been renewed questions over the effectiveness of American intelligence. Congressional sources say that the Noriega trail was picked up and lost four times.

Critics claim that even as he

was preparing to enter the embassy on Christmas Eve, US forces missed an opportunity to arrest him. A Vatican official reportedly tried to contact the US commander to warn him of General Noriega's imminent arrival but was unable to get the information through.

● **ROME:** Monsignor José Sebastián Laboa, the Apostolic Nuncio in Panama City, said that General Noriega finally decided to surrender to the Americans after Captain Gaitán, the commander of his bodyguard told him that sooner or later an angry mob would storm the nunciature and that "we will end up like Mussolini, hung up by the feet."

UK team to question returnees

Hanoi (Reuters) - Two British parliamentarians arrived here yesterday to question 51 Vietnamese boat people about their treatment since being repatriated against their will from Hong Kong last month.

Lord Ennals and Mr Timothy Raison said they would report on the condition of the returnees to Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, before he visits Hong Kong next week.

"The essential point is whether they are

being given reasonable treatment," Mr Raison told reporters on arrival.

Britain bore international criticism for sending back 51 boat people against their will on December 12. Hong Kong is host to more than 57,000 boat people. Of these, 43,000 are viewed as potential illegal immigrants.

British diplomats in Hanoi and Vietnamese officials said they were negotiating the return of another batch of boat people. They said this group did not object to returning.

Drug lords hit by cash flow crisis

From Geoffrey Matthews
Bogotá

The notorious cocaine racketeers of the Colombian city of Medellín whose annual turnover has traditionally been estimated in billions of dollars, are reportedly facing a "liquidity problem" which has forced them to revert to common crime in the form of kidnapping and car theft.

At the weekend the drug barons of the Medellín cartel threatened to kill the kidnapped son of Dr Germán Montoya Vélez, secretary-general to President Barco, whose power and influence have been likened to that of an unofficial vice-president.

Señor Diego Montoya, an insurance company executive, was kidnapped on December 20. On Saturday, a car-bomb caused extensive damage to the Bogotá offices of his company, Probolsa.

This attack came as the cartel faxed a message to Colombia's leading newspapers, warning that it would kill Señor Montoya within a week unless the Government released "three comrades" apparently detained in a police raid in November.

Ransom seems the principal motive for at least 20 other kidnappings in the Antioquia department of which Medellín is the capital, and the neighbouring Córdoba department.

The victims, grabbed over the holiday period are industrialists, business executives, ranchers and farmers.

Shamir takes flak over issue of PLO contacts

From Richard Owen
Jerusalem

If Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, thought he had resolved the issue of Israeli contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization by demoting Mr Ezer Weizman last week, he was proved wrong at the weekend.

The controversy burst into the open again as Mr Shamir's right-wing critics within his Likud party accused him of failing to punish Mr Weizman severely enough.

This, they said, encouraged the impression that contact with the PLO was being "legitimized" when Washington was trying to arrange Israeli-Palestinian dialogue on elections in the occupied territories.

"Shamir has capitulated shame-

fully," declared Mr Ariel Sharon, the Trade Minister, who leads the right-wing faction. Mr Sharon said the Likud central committee would debate the "scandal" of Mr Shamir's handling of the affair.

Aides to Mr Shamir said the removal of Mr Weizman from the 12-man inner cabinet which guides the Likud-Labour coalition - while allowing him to remain Minister of Science - showed that contact with a "terrorist organization" would not go unpunished, however highly placed the offender.

But many ordinary Israelis have noted that Israeli citizens less elevated than Mr Weizman have been jailed for the same offence.

"He got away with it," one Western diplomat said bluntly.

"The taboo against the PLO is being

eroded. A year or two ago talk of dealing with the PLO was confined to fringe elements. Now it is getting into the mainstream of the Israeli national debate."

The arrival in Tel Aviv yesterday of Mr Gyula Horn, the Hungarian Foreign Minister had a different message, however, for the right-wing. Mr Horn's visit, the first to Israel by a senior East European official since 1967, follows the resumption of ties between Israel and Hungary last September.

Mr Moshe Arens, the Foreign Minister, predicted that other East European states would follow suit. "Israel is growing in international acceptance, and this puts less pressure on us to make concessions," one official said.

Officials said Mr Shamir was

"furious" over Mr Weizman's PLO contacts. "The coalition guidelines are clear: no contact with the PLO."

None the less it emerged yesterday that "leading Labour figures" had been "closely associated with and informed about" Mr Weizman's contacts, most notably telephone calls to him from Tunisia.

And there is unease over the apparent use of Israel's security services to monitor Mr Weizman's movements and tap his telephone.

Some argue that the agents involved could be "compromised" if Mr Josef Harish, the Attorney General, asks the Knesset to lift Mr Weizman's parliamentary immunity so that legal action can be taken against him.

Diplomats cautioned that the peace process begun last year by Mr

James Baker, the US Secretary of State, was bogged down, and a planned meeting between the foreign ministers of Israel, the US and Egypt might not now take place until late next month.

Sources said Israeli leaders had concluded that far from providing "assurances" that Israel will never have to talk to the PLO, Washington was seeking to engineer just such a dialogue in a roundabout way. This Mr Shamir would never agree to, officials said.

● **Soldier shot:** Tension between Israel and Jordan rose yesterday when the Israeli Army said its troops had shot dead an armed Jordanian soldier after several days of sniper fire at the border. It said the soldier, armed with an automatic rifle, was inside Israel.

Khmer Rouge forces launch offensive against key city

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The Khmer Rouge marked the eleventh anniversary yesterday of the fall of Phnom Penh to Vietnamese forces by proclaiming an important offensive against Battambang, the second largest city in Cambodia. Their radio said the attack which began on Friday night had brought the defenders of the city to "a situation of defeat".

There has been no independent verification of the Khmer Rouge claims and General Tea Banh, the Cambodian Defence Minister, did not refer to the attack in a statement last night in which

he said the Khmer Rouge did not have the capability to topple the Government. He said, however, that they were advancing from the Thai border and positions had been lost to them.

Diplomats said new advances by the Khmer Rouge would probably force the convening of another international conference to deal with the situation earlier than anticipated. Last week, Khmer Rouge leaders rejected Australian proposals for a United Nations trustee government which would have denied them the role they

demand in an interim government leading to elections. Thai intelligence officers on the border 50 miles from Battambang said last night they had monitored radio messages indicating fighting in or near the city.

A Bangkok-based official of Prince Sihanouk's forces said their intelligence sources confirmed the attack on Battambang. He did not believe there was fighting in the city itself but about three miles outside.

Military analysts said the boldness of the attack was a serious blow to the morale of government forces.

Storm in teacup as Harrods is launched on Queen Mary

From Ivor Davis, Long Beach

The first Harrods shop in North America opened this weekend in typical Hollywood style, but no thanks were due to the US Customs department.

The shop opening in the newly refurbished 363-room Queen Mary ship hotel, brought together Disney representatives, British royalty and the Fayed family of Harrods, for a tea party.

Los Angeles Customs officials are obviously not tea drinkers, and, suspicious raised by an exotic label promising a "vibrating, heart-ening and traditional" brew,

they seized 1,600 bags of Harrods best darjeeling and went through selected bags, spoonful by spoonful, looking for cocaine. All they found was a leaf whose origins were definitely more Indian than Colombian.

Desperate officials from the Queen Mary hotel, worried that their guests would be doomed to drinking afternoon coffee, suggested customs men bring in drug-sniffing dogs.

But nothing would placate the customs men, who also grabbed all the Harrods foodstuffs including biscuits and a concoction which baffled them

even more, Harrods finest chutney.

This is the first Harrods "boutique" in North America and is the result of negotiations between Mr Michael Eisner, the powerful Disney boss, and Mr Mohammed Al Fayed of Harrods, who sent his brother Salah over for the official opening.

Prince Michael of Kent, a grandson of the monarch after whom the ship was named, arrived in a 1939 Rolls Royce, sporting his usual "fall set", despite the recent Disney ban on beards and moustaches for their employees.

Tower of Pisa closed to visitors

Rome - For the first time in its 900-year history, the Leaning Tower of Pisa has closed. On Saturday a record 2,352 visitors climbed the 293 marble steps to the top of the tower.

The tower is to be closed for three months, to establish what work is required to stop it leaning further. But it is almost certain that the closure will be extended for several months and probable the closure will be extended for years once the work begins.

Oil receding

Rabat (Reuters) - Winds and currents are sweeping the remains of the 185-mile oil slick that threatened Morocco's Atlantic coast out to sea, a government statement said yesterday. Experts say most of the toxic elements in the oil have evaporated or been dispersed.

Island attack

Ajaccio (Reuters) - Gunmen, believed to be separatists demanding independence for French-ruled Corsica, invaded the jet-set holiday island of Cavallo at the weekend, overpowered its 16 inhabitants and set off bombs which destroyed two restaurants, police said.

Seamen freed

Djibouti (AFP) - An Italian coaster and its crew have arrived in Djibouti after 27 days as prisoners of the rebel Somali National Movement. The Kwanda had been relieved of its cargo of 350 tonnes of fuel oil and stripped, while the crew lost all their possessions and clothes.

French flee

Nairobi (AFP) - A French medical mission yesterday moved out of the Ugandan border town of Moyo because of heavy fighting between rebels and government forces in southern Sudan, a day after the Sudan People's Liberation Army claimed to have killed more than 3,000 soldiers at Kajo Kaji, about 15 miles from Moyo.

Home tragedy

Clayton (AFP) - Six children and an adult were killed yesterday in an unexplained explosion and fire at a foster home in a rural area of Alabama, authorities said.

Jail battle

Chula Vista (AP) - Prisoners used makeshift weapons in a 20-minute, racially-charged battle at a crowded California county jail that left 27 inmates injured, authorities said.

Shark victim turns from hunter to protector

From Robert Cockburn
Sydney

To great white shark hunters, Mr Rodney Fox is the victim of an attempted murder who then campaigns to abolish the death penalty. "Put yourself in the shark's position - it was all a mistake," says Mr Fox who was almost bitten in two by a great white pointer in waters off South Australia.

This was one reason the makers of *Jaws* were drawn to his home at Port Lincoln in South Australia where he helped them to create the film's abiding image of a terrifying man-hunter. For the sharks the effect has been shattering.

Yesterday, Mr Fox revealed how appalled he is by the film's consequences. He believes our oceans' most loathed and yet misunderstood predator is being hunted irrationally into extinction in Australia.

So the victim who later turned hunter, has now appointed himself saviour of the dwindling numbers of great white sharks that have bled his

fascination ever since he was attacked.

The creature's decline is a controversial claim. Support, however, has come from M Jacques Cousteau, the French explorer, who failed last year to find any more than two sharks on what was to have been a thorough search from Alcyon, his new ship.

Port Lincoln did well out of the *Jaws* film series - today it is known as the shark capital of the world. While many choose to disagree about the sharp decline in a town that makes its living off the ocean, some important locals are changing their minds.

South Australia Game Fishermen's Association has announced plans to tag rather than kill the great white pointers. It is hoped that those caught will be returned to the ocean, with an identity tag on their dorsal fins, to help research into the little known breeding and migration habits of the species.

"It's funny," Mr Fox said, "but I would never have got involved in this

if I hadn't been bitten by that shark." Mr Fox, an insurance company inspector and keen amateur diver, was 23 when he was attacked in the sea off Port Lincoln in 1963.

He explained: "There were many divers spearing fish for four or five hours and there was a lot of blood in the water. The shark became very incensed and excited smelling all this blood."

"I was the first thing it came across. It grabbed hold of me from behind and around my chest. I poked it in the eyes. I thrust my hand in its mouth to push it off. There were 94 stitches and all the tendons were severed in my right arm."

"I was very fortunate I didn't lose any parts or my mobility," he laughs now. "Put yourself in the shark's position, they could easily mistake a swimmer on the surface for a seal or a lion, their natural food." Mr Fox acted as guide and consultant when the real great white pointers were filmed there for *Jaws*. But it was the dummy rubber substitute, that man-

gles everyone in the movie, which, he says, has put paid to the hopes of the genuine stars.

The attack inspired a compulsion to return to the same shark-infested waters, first as a hunter, then to study the creatures. He constructed the first steel cage to observe them close-up. He has since worked on numerous wild life films and scientific studies. Finally, he gave up hunting sharks and selling their jaw bones some eight years ago.

Comparatively little is known about the great white shark. But Mr Fox says there is a danger they will be fished to extinction because of the time it takes the female, anything between eight and 15 years, to mature before breeding can take place.

Mr Vic Hislop, of Queensland, one of Australia's most famous shark hunters, maintains the waters are still infested with great whites which must be hunted to save human life. The two men are old rivals and Mr Fox does not endear himself to the big game community with his new sympathies.



Mr Vic Hislop, an Australian shark hunter, kneeling beside a giant specimen of a great white shark, caught off Victoria.

FD/15

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Momentous events in eastern Europe have put textbooks out of step with the real world, Brian James reports

History in the re-making

When, in Churchill's words, the Iron Curtain came down on Europe, it seemed like a heavy printer's rule placed to mark the last chapter of history this century: even later, small wars seemed no more than ripples from a world congealed into immobile masses.

But months, then weeks, then days of accelerating change in eastern Europe struck down this image of a frozen political world, rendered obsolete all assumptions based upon it and, specifically, made virtually every school textbook quaintly out of date and sent university lecturers to their tutorials with the final pages of their notes left blank against the noonday news.

What we teach the young during the last years of the 20th century about the world we live in will be vastly different from what has passed as wisdom during the previous four decades. How well-equipped are our schools for the task, at a moment when the teaching of history is itself a subject of controversy?

Commander Michael Saunders Watson is chairman of the working group preparing the history section of the national curriculum, due to be phased in next year. "Teaching of history is, frankly, patchy," he says. "But these events point up what we wanted to say, which is that history is a changing subject that demands constant re-examination. It is not like maths and science, where a fact is a fact."

"For that reason our group, due to report to the Government at the end of this month, could not be sitting at a more exciting time. A criticism of our interim report was that our proposals would mean the rewriting of textbooks. They will certainly need rewriting now."

He accepts the difficulty of dealing in an academic manner with contemporary events. "But this problem of living amid history also underscores another thing that we have been saying. Which is that we should beware saying what is the 'truth', expounding only a closed point of view to children as though history were a series of simple, inescapable facts and not an interpretation of events." Child-

ren will have seen momentous events on television. Will history lessons help them understand that the world they grew up in was not given its national boundaries by God on day one, or comprehend the forces which bring countries into being or destroy regimes? "There will never be time in the curriculum to trace the origin of every nation: but yes, once they understand the process they have the basis to explore other beginnings for themselves."

Televised Romania, for example, might then strike sparks of renewed interest for pupils poring over textbook Europe. "Precisely," Martin Roberts, a spokesman for the Historical Association, the subject teachers' body, is head of the Cherwell School at Oxford, and confirms: "At the end of term I was taking a class on the Russian Revolution. In that hour I was able to cover the ground from 1917 until now, and the effect on pupils was remarkable: they were able to relate the events of 1917, the deeds of men like Trotsky and Lenin, to the things they had seen on television the previous evening."

The down side of this, however, is the difficulty of giving immediate events their proper significance. The purists of history teaching have long insisted that history beyond, say, 1939 should not be taught, because insufficient time has elapsed for proper assessment.

"Not many of us agree with that extreme view," Roberts says. "Every school I have taught in took history up to the 1980s. But the pace of modern change is a factor when applied to textbooks: for example, one standard textbook on Northern Ireland is dated 1974, and now looks a very strange book indeed."

"It takes between three and four years to produce a textbook, and the work is likely to be based on university scholarship done perhaps four years before that. Our sources for what is taught about modern Europe, meanwhile, tends to be the data taken from headlines: this may be very good journalism, but it may not be the stuff of true historical teaching."

Some teachers see benefit from a new enthusiasm for history. Dr Roger

Mettam, of the History at Universities Defence Group, formed when learning of the past seemed under threat and under-resourced by comparison with the teaching of sciences, thinks that recent events will play a part in the continuing debate about history in the coming national curriculum.

The suggestion that history should be an optional subject after children reach 14, precisely at the point in the key course where they would reach post-war events in Europe, is "alarming in this new context". Now, more than ever, he

adds, we cannot have 16-year-olds leaving school ignorant of the background and meaning of events which reached this climax in their lifetime, and will dictate much of the pattern of their adult lives.

Others see a danger. Chris McGovern, the Sussex teacher who has led the assault of history teachers against modern educationists' methods of downgrading knowledge of the past and replacing it with "skills" — for example, asking pupils to imagine and describe how they would feel as an Ancient Briton

during the Roman invasion, rather than learning the dates and reasons for the Romans' arrival — sees difficulties if that system is applied to recent events.

"When Romania gets on next year's syllabus, pupils will be asked to put themselves not only in the minds of those who overthrew that regime, but also that of Ceausescu: they have seen what his men did on the streets, but still they will be asked to justify his actions and will only get a high mark if they make out a convincing case for him. No moral judgements are permitted in this

pursuit of supposed 'objectivity' in the telling of history."

But it is in the universities that the days of change caused most upheaval in response. Dr Joachim Whaley, lecturer in German history at Gonville and Caius, Cambridge, says: "I have had to re-think every lecture. My introductory talk at the start of last term would be meaningless today. Throughout November and December, I set aside 15 minutes at every session with my students to update our previous week's discussion. Even one week before the Wall came down, it was inconceivable that any academic would have dared forecast such an event."

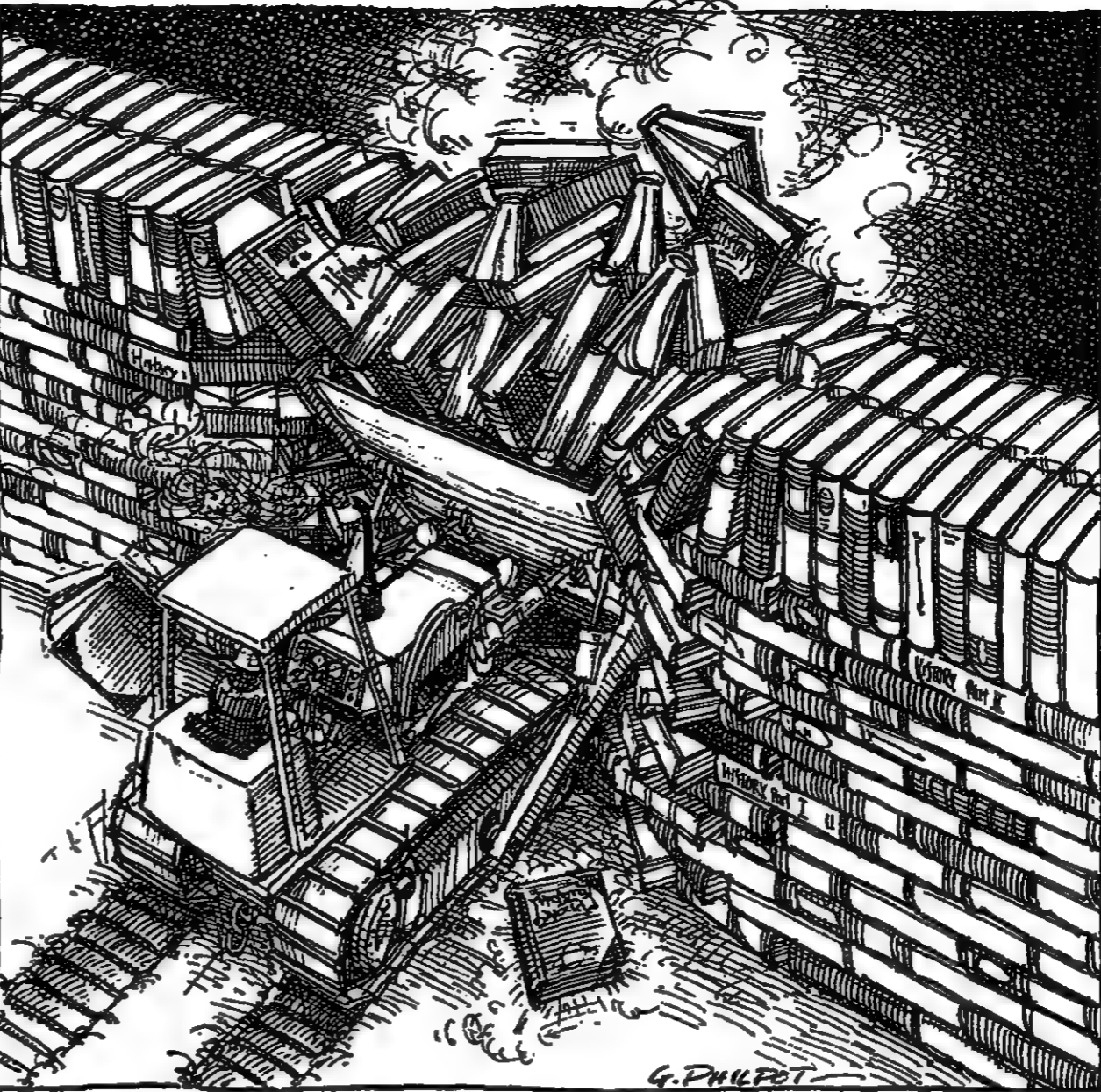
"Virtually every textbook has a final chapter that is out of date or simply wrong, often embarrassingly so, as all assumptions about continuity became impossible to justify. Authors who based books on the immutability of the Western Alliance and the Warsaw Pact will find the present situation hard to reconcile with such views."

"It will be a long time, perhaps 10 years, before true history can be produced. We have problems of terminology and language to overcome, what is meant by 'democratic socialism' or 'free market economy' in the West is not what they are discussing in eastern Europe today. Nor can we understand these events until a great deal more is known about the part played by Gorbachev. His role in Berlin and Bucharest is certain to be greater than now believed."

Dr Andrew Cruz, who lectures on modern German history at Queen Mary College, London, says: "All of us have had to rewrite our lectures. At the very least we all have to re-evaluate the forces of opposition, religious and democratic, that remained in those states despite years of repression." Gorbachev, he adds, did not just wave a magic wand; rather, he looked on to forces whose strength very few had suspected.

Perhaps, then, historical purists were right to insist on delay before beginning to evaluate post-war years. "That is an extreme position, though this extraordinary series of events may well be seen as the ending, finally, of the Second World War. But how long must we wait before beginning to teach about this period? Perhaps a convenient point would be after the holding of the first democratic elections in these countries: it will be an end of a phase. But the unscrambling of systems that have stood for 40 years may take years."

History, declared Henry Ford, is "bunk". No sensible person could agree, but history, as embodied in existing tomes and treatises, is badly out of sorts with the real world that it is its duty to explain.



'These events show history is a changing subject, demanding constant re-examination. It is not like maths and science, where a fact is a fact'

FOR AUTHORS, A QUICK REWRITE TO KEEP UP WITH THE CHANGES

British lecturer in political science who has been contracted by the Oxford University Press (OUP) to write a book on communist systems of the world is refusing to sign the contract on the grounds that his subject matter is fast disappearing.

"I have suggested that if there is nothing left for him to write about he could do a book on the collapse of communism instead," says Henry Hardy, OUP's political editor.

With events in eastern Europe moving almost as fast as drying ink, publishers and writers are facing the costly problem of having to rewrite history on a daily basis.

"It is a problem, and it's a case of getting authors to update where they can and then rushing the book out," says Macmillan's publishing director, Tim Farmiloe, who publishes between 15 and 20 books a year on contemporary history. "In an extreme case, we could make changes on the proofs up to three or four weeks before publication."

One of his books, *Britain and the Soviet Union 1917 to 1989*, which is due out in the spring, has had to be regularly updated over the past few months by its author, Sir Curtis Keeble, former British ambassador in Moscow.

"Sir Curtis had to rewrite the last chapter several times while he was writing the book, and about three times more since we've had it," Farmiloe says. "Then there comes a point when you just have to get the book out and it's bound to be a bit out of date."

Farmiloe does not consider withdrawing out-of-date books from sale, prefer-

ring to capitalize on renewed public interest.

"If the book has already been published we take advantage of any changed developments by way of a press release. And assuming the book sells reasonably well, you do have the opportunity to bring out a new edition."

Tony Morris, history editor of OUP, agrees that "minor tinkering" is occasionally necessary. A new book, *Rebellions and Revolutions*, to be published next month, has had an eight-page postscript added to include the Tiananmen Square episode. And OUP's *Illustrated History of Christianity*, due out in September, now includes the stop-press addition of President Gorbachev's recent meeting with the Pope.

Morris does not, however, believe that it is necessary continually to update works of modern history. "These books are recognized as historical documents, and scholars looking at them will know when they were published."

The publisher Century would not entirely agree. It expects that about a third of David Marsh's recent book, *Germany, The Paradox of Power*, will need to be rewritten. "We decided to reprint when Germany was making headlines," explains Century's editorial director, Mark Booth, adding that, now, "We would expect to sell twice as many copies." Booth admits that fast-moving events in eastern Europe "make publishing current affairs books very difficult".

Professor Norman Davies, a leading expert and writer on eastern Europe, forecasts that recent events will increase interest in the Soviet bloc countries and extend the popular image of Europe

beyond the boundaries of the West. Currently writing a 700-page history of Europe in which he is "trying to give the same space to eastern Europe as western Europe", Davies, who is a professor at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies in London, says: "Our whole educational, intellectual system is geared to ignore eastern Europe. I don't think there is a standard work on the countries of eastern Europe because the whole problem is that there aren't the resources to study. You either accept the official sources without question, or you choose another source."

"Sovietologists tend to be very weak and watery and uncritical. I can't say there's a bible of eastern Europe that is now going to have to be rewritten."

Faber & Faber, with several Czechoslovakian writers on its list, including the new president, rushed out 10,000 paperback copies of Václav Havel's essays, *Living in Truth*, shortly before Christmas. The paperback print-run two years ago was just 1,000 copies.

"Now he's such a well-known figure it is attracting a much more general readership," says a Faber spokeswoman. "We will reprint again if we sell out the paperback, which we probably will."

Author Lesley Chamberlain, whose book, *In The Chamberlain Mirror*, is due out in the spring, has twice had to rewrite the preface to keep up with events. "It was really just a matter of putting the book in context," she says.

Sally Brompton

THE CLASSROOM REVOLUTION: WHEN TEACHING THE PAST HURTS

At the rambling Lenin comprehensive school in the southern East German town of Suhle, the staff-room joke is that you now have to go to get to classes before the newly keen pupils. If you teach history or civic studies — which includes the history of East Germany — a sprint is preferable.

Since the Communist power monopoly crumbled in November, the twin propaganda props of the previous regime have been transformed into noisy, critical discussions. It is a transformation which Heiga Schultz, who teaches both, says goes "well beyond my wildest dreams".

Rigid ideological guidelines disappeared overnight when Margot Honacker, the education minister and wife of the former leader, was toppled.

"I felt as if I could teach properly for the first time in my career," says Schultz, a lively 40-year-old who has taught all her professional life. "I simply said, 'Tell me what you would like to talk about and we will try and discover the truth together.'"

She did not have to ask twice. The questions poured out. Why did Stalin work with Hitler? How could the intervention in Afghanistan be described as "socialist solidarity", when there was popular discontent with the Soviet presence? How could East Germany talk of the "fraternal bond" with the Soviet Union while ignoring its reforms?

"What we used to teach was completely in conflict with what our pupils were seeing on western television or hearing from relatives in West Germany," she says. Awkward questions

had to be answered by calling up the demons of capitalist exploitation and the "anti-socialist aims" of the western media.

A precarious attempt at educational *glasnost* was made last year by the elite Carl von Ossietzky school in East Berlin. The headmaster, Rainer Forner, allowed a speakers' corner to be erected by a group of sixth-form pupils as a discussion forum for difficult questions of politics and history.

Forner was summoned before the education ministry and told that he was to expel the "ring-leaders of dissent" or be sacked. Under pressure from the Communist Party and colleagues, he expelled four pupils and disciplined four others. It was a warning to other schools not to step outside state guidelines.

The return of respect for the teaching profession among pupils and parents will, Schultz admits, be an uphill battle. "The most difficult questions which every teacher now faces are: 'Why did you go along with it?', and: 'How competent we are to teach in the climate of reform.'"

The education ministry is now faced with completely rewriting history and foreign language textbooks and curricula; the standard English teaching materials still feature the highly unrepresentative Brown family from Manchester, who are all members of the Communist Party, and beset by British imperialism and poverty around the breakfast table.

While most East Germans have had their view of German history balanced by exposure to their western neighbour

and the recollections of grandparents, their grasp of other historical questions remains unbalanced because of the limits on information about capitalist countries.

The Irish problem is a popular area of interest among older teenagers, but their teachers admit that they themselves have no idea of its intricacies, having been taught themselves that it is simply a product of British colonialism.

The country's teaching association has complained that it is being left to carry the blame for the former regime's moribund education policy. An article in the East German *Berliner Zeitung* newspaper last week admitted that extensive retraining is necessary to restore competence to the classroom.

Schultz says her older pupils are now unwilling to hear the socialist side of historical arguments: "Anything with the word socialist in it is now deemed a lie from the start." Many were in tears when they heard of the suppression of the Hungarian and Czech uprisings, previously described as "counter-revolutionary *putschs* by western agents".

The classroom revolution has left no age group unaffected. Schultz's colleague in an infants' school arrived home in tears the day the portrait of Erich Honacker was removed from the classroom wall.

Her six-year-olds had asked her why the leader they had been taught from kindergarten was an heroic anti-fascist and good to all working people was now "a bad man" under house arrest.

She was unable to reply.

Anne McElvay

Monmouth, still in a very rebellious mood

The fighting spirit is still alive in South Wales, which is honouring the Chartists with a re-enactment of their trial of 150 years ago

John Frost, William Jones and Zephaniah Williams go on trial for their lives today at the shire hall in Monmouth. They face charges of high treason, for which the law still allows a sentence of hanging and quartering. The Prime Minister, under considerable pressure from the Queen, wants the death penalty passed on the three, fearing that a show of leniency will encourage further acts of sedition from members of the Chartist movement.

Whatever occurs today in the emotionally charged South Wales town, there will be a re-trial tomorrow and another on Wednesday, all with identical outcomes, and with riots and disturbances expected by the police outside the hall in Agincourt Square. For it is exactly 150 years since the ringleaders of an armed march on the Queen's soldiers at Newport were brought

to book by a seething establishment, and this week the community of the old assize town is commemorating that crucial episode of English legal and political history. It is doing so in the very same courtroom, built in 1725, where Frost, Jones, Williams and several of their confederates were tried and sentenced.

There is much more in play here this week than the Ayckbournian spectacle of a huge civic cast, a town clerk donning a wig and playing the role of defence counsel, a former lady mayor acting as commentator, the local rugby and soccer clubs vying with each other for the most lifelike tumult (the smart money is on the footballers), schoolchildren giving evidence to Lord Shaftesbury's commissioners about the conditions in which they have to work for tuppence a week, and the modern bobbies mocking the colleague doing his bit in period uniform outside.

Although the trial, an adaptation of the original transcripts, has been set up with the scrupulous democracy of its heroes, the idea came from a retired local teacher, Bill Williams. Listening to him speak, you soon become aware that this is not just another amateur-drawn pageant, but something that has become a focal point for the complaints of townspeople a century and half on. Around the staged tumult in the square will be the thoroughly modern petitioners against gravel quarrying in Trelleck, against oil prospectors in the Monnow Valley, against army use of Vauxhall Fields in the loop of the Wye, and against the shaking to death of the medieval bridge, from which angry 20th century people deposit false chunks at the doors of the Welsh Office.

The idea of modern man's lot as comparable with that of his 19th century counterpart in industrial



Monmouth rehearsals: local men David Price (left) and Brian Phillips

South Wales may be laughable, but in Monmouth this week it is as though the shades of a still-radical town have been fleshed out with newer bodies of dissent. And when it comes to talk of the identity of towns in an increasingly regional structure of administration, there can be no suggestion that reform-

ing passion died with the passing of the Chartists.

"All our publicity has been designed to show that people are still willing to struggle and resist, and that they will continue even after their leaders have gone," Williams says. "Like the Chartists, we are stressing the need for

people to stand up and be counted. Of course, our aim is to honour that movement, but there are many of us who see a direct link between them and our own desires for proper democracy."

The People's Charter of 1838 was by no means a regional phenomenon. It had been drawn up for the London Working Men's Association, but gained enormous popular support throughout Britain, particularly in areas of great industrial growth. It carried six clauses, of which all but one, the holding of annual parliamentary elections, have since been implemented: the right of all men over 21 to vote; the voting to be conducted by secret ballot; the creation of 300 constituencies based on equal numbers; abolition of the requirement for a Member of Parliament to own land or property; and the payment of a wage to all MPs.

When the charter was rejected by Parliament, it unleashed waves of protest. In South Wales the culmination was the 5,000-strong march to Newport from towns like Merthyr, Dowlais, Nantyglo and Blaenavon — the core of the largest single iron-making area in the world. It was a disaster. They were met at the Westgate Hotel by police and soldiers, who opened fire. There were hundreds of arrests and uncounted deaths, including at least 22 Chartists. Monmouth was chosen for the trial because it was thought to be a

town where the maximum and barbaric sentences could be passed without local dissent.

On trial days the place was as packed with onlookers as it is today with motor cars. Companies of infantry and cavalry were brought in, and police were drafted from London; 236 witnesses were subpoenaed, 180 members of the local gentry volunteered to serve as jurors, and a doctor offered to quarter the bodies free of charge.

In the event, Monmouth protested so loudly that the howls could be heard throughout the country. After a series of cabinet meetings called by the Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, the death sentences were commuted to transportation to Tasmania, and the Queen was unamused.

In the nine months since the town decided to gear itself up for a re-run, even more momentous forces have been running through eastern Europe. So much so that the organizing committee sent details of its programme across the Iron Curtain. A few days ago it received a telephone call from the Czechoslovakian movement Charter 77. On a bad line from Bratislava to Monmouth, the recipient could just make out the words "Do, do, do." He concluded that even though the past is a foreign country, they often talk the same language there.

Alan Franks

MONDAY PAGE

Stirred but not shaken

As her husband's business empire faces the threat of financial ruin, Eileen Bond can console herself that diamonds really are for ever, reports Robert Cockburn



Eileen Bond outside her mansion at Glympton: she was warned to sell the property as an ancient curse on the village brought bad luck to all its owners

Alan Bond is the Basil Fawcett of the Australian corporate sector, a man from financial company Barclays de Zoete Wedd said yesterday. "At the end of the day it is his wife who has all the answers."

Eileen Bond has had to come up with her own answers to survive, and at least outwardly enjoy life with her quixotic husband since she met him at the age of 16. Her Catholicism, children — and plenty of diamonds, often given in appreciation by her husband — are all rocks she has clung to.

Now that her husband faces liquidation, with the banks closing in on his crumbling business empire, she faces a future without the glamour and some of those palatial homes that seem to make what is by all accounts a fairly turbulent marriage bearable.

And yet out of her husband's threatened downfall, her friends predict that Eileen Bond will emerge as the more dynamic survivor. Any chance of this independent couple finally separating over this crisis is scoffed at. For the growth of Mrs Bond's share of the assets with the current juggling of corporate funds to avoid massive debts, could see "with whatever is left."

In this climactic episode of Australia's gaudiest soap opera, it is perhaps a harsh reward, after trying so hard, to be cast as a Prunella Scales and not Joan Collins. Unlike either of those characters, Eileen Bond is held in some affection by Australians for the crumpling humour that so terrified the ladies of Rhode Island when Alan Bond stole the America's Cup from them in 1983. She has a character built up by the years of public and domestic trials — by her husband's enemies and lovers alike.

She once found out her husband had commissioned a particularly exotic mink coat to be made up for another woman. Mrs Bond immediately presented herself to the stunned furrier. She asked to try on the coat. The furrier pleaded that the coat was a surprise, it was not finished, the sleeves were too long. Mrs Bond told him that it was perfect and she would take it as it was.

Last year's public revelation that her husband was a close friend of Australian theatre producer Liz Bliss did not part the Bonds, either. Before then it had been observed that the two women would attend Bond's sailing jousts side by side but in the separate yachts he provided for them. This Christmas, Bond won line

honours in the annual Sydney to Hobart yacht race. In his moment of triumph he was met on the Hobart quay by reporters who broke the news that an official receiver had been applied for by the Victoria Supreme Court to take control of his brewing interests.

Winning the America's Cup seems largely forgotten. Indeed, some Australians now resent their hero. "Where Bond has gone wrong is that there is no evidence in his entire history that he has the ability to run a business," one financial analyst told me. "There's no single business success you can look at."

When Alan Bond married Eileen, then aged 17, he was earning his living as a signwriter. He married into a wealthy Western Australian wool-broking family headed by his father, Bill "Doozer" Hughes. Eileen, a staunch Catholic from a traditional Irish background, exerted her influence early on, persuading her fiancé to become a Catholic before they married. Her father's death last year is said to be a far greater loss to her than the threatened collapse of her husband's world.

Eileen's immediate career was to raise their four children, Suzanne, John, Craig and Jody. Now her interests encompass a significant part of Dalhousie Investments, one of the companies Bond is reputed to be building up with other besieged assets; her interior decorating company, called Red Bond Interiors, has decorated hotels in New York, San Diego and London and she has a Perth restaurant, called San Lorenzo. She also has her diamonds.

Today she regrets the amount of time she and her husband spend

apart because of his business commitments, and says that she would never like her own children to go through a similar kind of marriage. Her son John was married last September. Craig lives in Brisbane, where he is involved in running the Bond brewery, and Jody, the youngest, is said to be close to her father in his business interests.

Bond always tries to make his absences up to his wife in some way. Recently, when she lay alone and bored on a hospital bed, she complained to Bond by telephone

ago of Gladwood House, overlooking Sydney harbour from the exclusive suburb of Point Piper, was a pinnacle of success for the Bonds. Bought for A\$4 million (then worth about £1.5 million), this rather grim, 40-room gothic mansion, overgrown with bright native tropical plants, is an odd sight. Nevertheless, this was Eileen Bond's "dream home", which she redecorated and vowed would never be sold. Until last week, she was still denying her house was on the market, even after estate agents had been instructed to organize its auction by an executive

'We've had some good years and we've had bad years. I'm sure we'll get through this one'

that all the other women had their menfolk beside them. Bond promised he would buy her some more diamonds to make up for his absence. She says she went out and selected the biggest pair of diamond studs she could find.

The new financial strain — at the weekend it was revealed that Bond is now involved in talks with a Singapore company about the sale of a controlling interest in Bond Corporation Holdings — is beginning to show. Some of the Bonds' most prized possessions are already on the way out.

Their luxurious harbourside mansion in Sydney is up for auction. The purchase four years

ago of a subsidiary company of Bond Corporation Holdings, it is expected to fetch around A\$8 million (£4 million).

Alan Bond's £30 million Van Gogh painting "Irises" was recently taken down from its public exhibition in Perth and sent overseas. For now, there remain other homes in Australia and overseas, and of course the Oxfordshire village of Glympton bought lock stock and barrel to fulfil an old desire for gentrification in the country he left to find his fame and fortune.

In sympathy mail received by Eileen Bond since the threat to her husband's empire, one warned them

to sell Glympton as an ancient curse on the village brought bad luck to all its owners.

The people of Glympton, those who remain, were more than offended when Mrs Bond suggested they convert their Anglican church to a Catholic one. She claims though they forgave her miscalculation in the plans to renovate the village to its original Jacobean state, after she cooked everyone an Irish stew for lunch.

"The villagers would love her after they got to know her," her friend the Sydney writer Heather Brown insists. "She'd roll up her sleeves and get stuck in."

Her personal assistant in Perth, Sue Park, says that Mrs Bond will not be joining her husband as he battles to save his companies in the Australian courts in the coming weeks. Instead she was going on holiday abroad to get away from it all. "She always bears up beautifully," Park says.

The symptoms of Alan Bond's financial decline increased yesterday with reports that he is to sell two of his most prized possessions, his luxury yachts which are estimated to be worth a total of A\$40 million (£20 million).

A European yacht broker now has on sale the luxury motor yacht Southern Cross III for a price of A\$30 million (£15 million). It is also understood that Bond is selling his three masted sailing schooner XXXX, named after his brewing interest now threatened with liquidation. The ship is worth A\$10 million (£5 million).

Last week Mrs Bond told a Sydney newspaper: "Alan's handling it all very well. He doesn't get upset about it. I'm a totally confident person and I'm sure we'll get through this one. We've had some good years and we've had bad years. This is the leanest."

Another day at the love factory

The work place is predicted to be the marriage bureau of the 1990s. How credible is the corporation as Cupid?

The office will become the dating and marriage bureau of the 1990s, according to the American academic Dr James Martin. He sees the rise of women in senior roles and shared work creating shared emotions as being factors in the rise of the corporation as Cupid.

But is the concept not way off target for the "New Age"? Forecasters have consistently predicted that the 1990s will be an era when the office will assume less importance — when human values will be given priority over the materialistic "hope", as Margaret Thatcher said at the start of the New Year message, over "achievement".

But perhaps Martin, co-founder of the Samuels consultancy, and vice-president in charge of "academic affairs" at Mount Ida College, both in Massachusetts, is belatedly remarking upon a 1980s phenomenon.

Dual-career couples are already getting tired of coming home to a cold house or a tired and unsympathetic spouse, says Professor Cary Cooper, the co-author of a recent book on the subject.

But this is where being married to — or romantically involved with — someone in the same profession, even the higher romance rate in professions with project-based work such as advertising, the media, the theatre — and in jobs with particularly lengthy and difficult training periods, such as doctors and lawyers, Grayson speculates.

But even the most hierarchical corporate giants have had to become more tolerant of office romances. If not exactly embracing them, major banks, for example, no longer automatically object on security grounds to married or otherwise-involved couples working in the same branch. "No problem," says a spokesman for the Midland. "We're quite liberal." But Barclays still has "a custom, where reasonably practicable, to encourage couples to be posted in different branches".

Most companies seem to adopt a play-it-by-ear attitude. Marks & Spencer says the one thing it would probably object to is "a personnel manager being married to another manager in the same store, because we'd want staff to feel they could complain freely to the personnel manager about that manager if they needed to."

Grayson agrees that this is necessary discrimination. She recommends other subtle adjustments. "If a woman was coming along for a production manager's job and her boyfriend or husband happened to be a fitter or something lower, on the shop floor, I'd make a point of seeing she was in a different part of the company — because of the teasing he would get," she says.

"And I wouldn't be happy if a marketing director's secretary was married to the sales director, because the directors must both compete and cooperate."

Two factors, forecasters agree, may combine to bring more romance — and marriage — into the workplace by the end of the 1990s. First, women are more secure in their professional personae and no longer feel the need to ape men or male management styles.

Second, the demographic change will encourage more married women back into the workplace. It is only logical, says Bob Tyrell, managing director of the Henley Centre for Forecasting, that if there are vacancies to fill, some men might start encouraging their own wives back to work in their companies. "Although," he adds, "that could raise the divorce rate."

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And that's why the lady is a star

At the age of 69, with failing health and a respiratory machine called Charlie, the incomparable Peggy Lee is back in town

A perplexed look crossed the face of the great jazz singer. To Peggy Lee, who has known every big name in swinging music for the past half century, this was clearly a new one. "Kylie Minogue?" she repeated it as though it was one of the less popular items on a Martini menu. "No I don't think I've heard her."

Perhaps it's just as well. Peggy Lee has enjoyed the admiration of everyone from

Benny Goodman to Paul McCartney, and she was dubbed The Queen by Frank Sinatra. Indeed, there are those who would rather hear her read the weather forecast than listen to the life works of Kylie Minogue. This might be their last chance to hear her. She is in

Britain, and although it is not scheduled as a farewell tour, she agrees it may be.

After Wogan tonight, she starts a nationwide tour with two nights at the Albert Hall later this week. She is also promoting new albums and her autobiography, *Miss Peggy Lee*, published by Bloomsbury.

She almost did not make it at all. She had to be helped on to her plane after a fall at her home in California, and she signed autographs with a swollen hand. She grinned round at everyone and softly began to sing: "Smile though your arm is aching..." Even those half dozen words were gloriously, unmistakably Peggy Lee. Did she think of cancelling? No, she didn't. Peggy Lee does not cancel.

She's almost 70 now, a small, plump woman dressed in voluminous black, with long pearls, and hair in a metallic bob. How did Norma Eggstrom, a North Dakota farm girl with Scandinavian cheek bones, come to have a voice that was pure Mississippi? No one knows. These days some of her fans are in twilight homes, but increasingly, and to her delight, she sees young faces in the crowds. Even among jazz singers, where suffering counts as an

apprenticeship, she had a grim background: mother died when she was four, brutal stepmother, dad on the bottle, four marriages, and a run of bad health which — accidents apart — includes diabetes and nine heart operations. She still travels with a respiratory machine she cheerfully calls Charlie because of lung damage that was a consequence of pneumonia.

She chuckled. "I wrote a song about that... 'If I weren't so healthy I'd be dead'. Hey, do I sound husky? Ginger, can I have some potassium? Ginger, a black woman who is in charge of the pills, passed the bottle."

She kept going through the bad times because of the happy disposition which she had inherited from her mother. "She managed to implant a lot of cheerfulness in me. Looking back on it, all that unhappiness taught me a lot of stuff I use in my singing."

Of her four marriages, she says three were mistakes. "There was a lot of permissiveness around in those days, and that was my way of

trying to be prim. Then one day someone said to me 'Hey Peggy, you don't have to marry them all, you know.' I wish I'd thought of that."

On this tour everyone will be trying to tease out of her the name of a Hollywood star, a married man, with whom she had a blazing affair. She tells the story in her book, but names no names. "It's going to stay a secret. Big? Yeah, he was a very big star. He's dead now, but his wife's still alive. I won't add to her unhappiness."

The lady is a tramp? Not this one.

Colin Dunne

MELBOY MAKER



Flashback: Peggy Lee sitting pretty in 1961

"A SALE MISS CORBISHLY?" spluttered the Chairman
"THIS IS BECOMING A HABIT!"



Half the board nearly woke up at the last monthly meeting when the Chairman thumped the table. Not just because young Catepole swiped the last bourbon but because Miss Corbishly mentioned another sale (only the second since the Chairman joined the firm earlier this century). He finally calmed down and agreed but only because he'll be away on a Nile cruise with "you know who". So from January 10th until 28th (including Saturdays) he's allowed us to offer the following:

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Chinese Needlework 'Love Line' 10'x8' £3005 £1950
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TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

The new year may be only a week old, but there can be little argument over the title Playwright of 1990, if not the decade. It can only be Vadav Havel, promoted almost overnight from oppressed dissident to president of Czechoslovakia. It seems to have gone unnoticed, incidentally, that America's current ambassador to Prague is none other than Shirley Temple: now if Milos Forman could direct her in a Havel screenplay, with additional dialogue by Tom Stoppard and Robert Maxwell putting up the money, Czechoslovakia really could tie up next year's Oscars.

Neither the ending of the 1980s nor the installation of its first black mayor had the same impact on New York last week as the departure of television hostess Jane Pauley from the NBC cornflake show, where she had spent the past 12 years bidding the nation Good Morning. There was weeping in the streets, weather forecasters in her studio solemnly announced the end of an era; psychiatrists were regularly interviewed about the effects on national morale and the public psyche of having a new and (if you look very closely) fractionally younger lady beaming out to an audience which apparently has the time and inclination not only to watch television at dawn, but also to notice who is on screen. The network quickly reassured viewers that Miss Pauley will still be paid several million dollars a year for making appearances later in the day, thereby allowing her to spend what she has been calling in a series of mind-numbing interviews "more one-on-one time with my dear ones". Whether they will be able to stand having her across the toaster in real life, instead of only via television, has yet to be established.

Can this be true? At the outbreak of the First World War, according to the American communist George Will, a porter at Waterloo station told a Londoner that he would of course volunteer to fight for his country — just like his grandfather "who, a hundred years ago, was among those who defeated Napoleon on this very spot."

As Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell continues to pack the Apollo Theatre, the subject himself is reported to be spending a considerable amount of time in the stalls bar, while Peter O'Toole immortalizes him on stage. The other night, some time after the interval, a new barman tried to evict Mr Bernard from the premises, only to have the writer indignantly explain who he was. "Nonsense," said the barman firmly, "Jeffrey Bernard is only a character in the play we are currently presenting: he doesn't really exist."

BARRY FANTONI



In Mexico last week I learnt from the stage director Peter Glenville, who now lives there, that he, long before Peter Hall, had the first English rights to *Waiting for Godot*. He hoped to sign up Ralph Richardson and Alec Guinness and invited Beckett to London to talk it over. "He arrived at my house for lunch with a heavy knapsack which he never removed," Glenville said. "After lunch I took him to the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, where Ralph received us in his dressing-room and began asking Beckett a whole series of questions about the play, and whether Godot was really God. After ten minutes of this, Beckett looked at me and said 'I have to go to the pub now' and that was the last we saw of him. I should have taken him to meet Alec Guinness instead; that way I might have had a production."

The Pozzo of the first West End production of *Godot* was, in fact, my late and great grandfather, Peter Bull, who invited his mother to the opening night. Lady Bull seldom travelled, even across London, without her maid Jessie, and the two old ladies duly sat through the play before reparting to Peter's dressing-room, where he was unwise enough to ask his mother what she had thought of the evening's entertainment. There was a very long pause, longer even than any of those in the play, after which Lady Bull spoke: "Jessie," she said, "thought that the railings in the dress circle were very nicely polished."

Each January I toy with the idea of buying a new car. Nothing the matter with the old one, you understand, except for the letter on the number-plate and the figure on the mileometer. Last Saturday a friend tried to persuade me to buy a Skoda Favorit... the new model, enthusiastically received by the world's motoring press, could become the Car of the Year.

I churned a few Skoda jokes around my mind and told him one about the man who went to a garage and asked if they could do a windscreen wiper for a Skoda. The garage owner thought for a moment and said: "All right, that sounds like a fair exchange."

When I had calmed him (he sells Skodas, which are good and reliable cars) I questioned him about the name: why Favorit — before anyone has got to love it? "Would it not be proper to await

When the prime ministers of the Comecon countries hold their much-delayed annual meeting in Sofia tomorrow, they will be faced with the question of whether the organization can be reformed to meet the trade needs of the new market economies being established in Eastern Europe, or whether they should abandon it. Czechoslovakia has already announced that it will propose Comecon's dissolution, and will withdraw if this is not accepted. The Solidarity-led government in Poland apparently feels the same way. And last spring, the Hungarian prime minister, Miklos Nemeth, declared that "Comecon is obsolete."

The basic features of Comecon were established by Stalin in 1949/50, and have been little altered. After the outbreak of the Korean war in 1950, all the East European economies were forced to adopt the Stalinist pattern of industrialization and to increase the already substantial proportion of national income devoted to investment in heavy industry. The Soviet Union supplied the resource-poor East European economies with energy and raw materials, and in exchange imported East

European manufactured goods. This resulted in long-term dependence of the East European economies on Soviet energy supplies (which in 1988 accounted for a third of all their energy consumption), and on the Soviet market for East European exports of low-quality industrial products — such as East German Trabant and Wartburg cars — which were frequently unsaleable in the West.

Trade-flows between member countries are planned in advance and agreed in bilateral protocols covering the five-year plans, which are divided into annual segments. Trade surpluses between members are credited in transferable roubles, the Comecon unit of account. The transferable rouble cannot be converted into either convertible currencies or the domestic currencies of the Comecon states; nor can it be used to buy goods from other Comecon countries.

Consequently, no country has any incentive to run a trade surplus with its Comecon partners, and trade-flows between East European states are usually strictly balanced.

Hungarian economists claim that so far, reform of Comecon has failed to keep pace with even limited domestic economic reforms, and that this has acted as a brake on implementing more radical, market-oriented reforms. They argue that the problems facing the Hungarian economy can be overcome in the long term only by switching trade away from "soft" Comecon markets to the more competitive markets of the West.

The last year has been the most difficult in the history of the organization, which celebrated its 41st (and possibly final) anniversary on January 5. Nearly all the East European countries have complained that during 1989 the Soviet Union

failed to meet agreements to supply them with energy at planned levels and at the stipulated times. Moscow has admitted some shortfalls, attributing them to domestic problems such as the failure to meet planned targets for crude oil production and coalminers' strikes. These shortfalls have affected East European industrial production.

Last year the East European countries were also involved in major disputes among themselves. Czechoslovakia waged a virtual customs war with its partners as it sought to prevent visitors buying up highly subsidized and scarce consumer goods. Czechoslovak visitors to Hungary and Poland meanwhile faced acute problems because the tourist rate of exchange remained fixed, despite the far higher rates of inflation in Hungary and Poland. Czechoslovakia and Hungary are also involved in a bitter argument

over Hungary's decision to withdraw from a joint project to construct a dam on the Danube to generate hydro-electric power.

Trade problems have been compounded by organizational problems in Comecon. At the last session, in July 1988, the member countries (with the exception of Romania) agreed to the gradual introduction of a "unified market" which would involve "the free movement of goods, services and factors of production". There was, however, little or no agreement on how this goal should be achieved, and so little progress was made that it was not even possible to hold a formal meeting of the prime ministers during 1989.

Hungarian economists have argued that trade between Comecon countries should be conducted in convertible currencies. On December 13, the Soviet premier, Nikolai

Ryzhkov, seemed to agree to this proposal, though it may not be so attractive to other East European countries. If adopted, it will mean that they will have to pay for imports of Soviet oil and gas in hard currency and will have great difficulty in finding markets, inside or outside Comecon, willing to pay for their manufactured goods in hard currency.

Ryzhkov's guarded announcement may be interpreted in some circles as renewed Soviet determination to reduce the costs of economic support of East European nations now they are moving away from communism, and it may well have stimulated the Czechoslovak proposal to dissolve the institution altogether.

Whatever happens, the Comecon countries urgently need to improve the conduct of economic relations between themselves. For example, Hungarian television exports to the West contain Polish tubes. The East European economies also remain highly dependent on Soviet energy supplies. The alternative to improved co-operation within Comecon may prove to be a growing dependence on capitalist economies, the West German in particular.

Alan Smith on the market forces undermining Comecon

Shedding the straitjacket

Bernard Levin points an accusing finger in the case of flight-deck derring-do

This is an interloper speaking...

If you are planning a journey to Gatwick Airport (or finishing one from Canada there for that matter) I think you should have a word with your travel agent to make quite certain that there isn't a flight from somewhere else which would get you where you want to go not more than a few months late. And if such a re-routing would be impossible or most inconvenient, you would be well advised to think seriously about swimming across. Or did you not read of the exploits of young Mark Schmit, from Liestal in Switzerland?

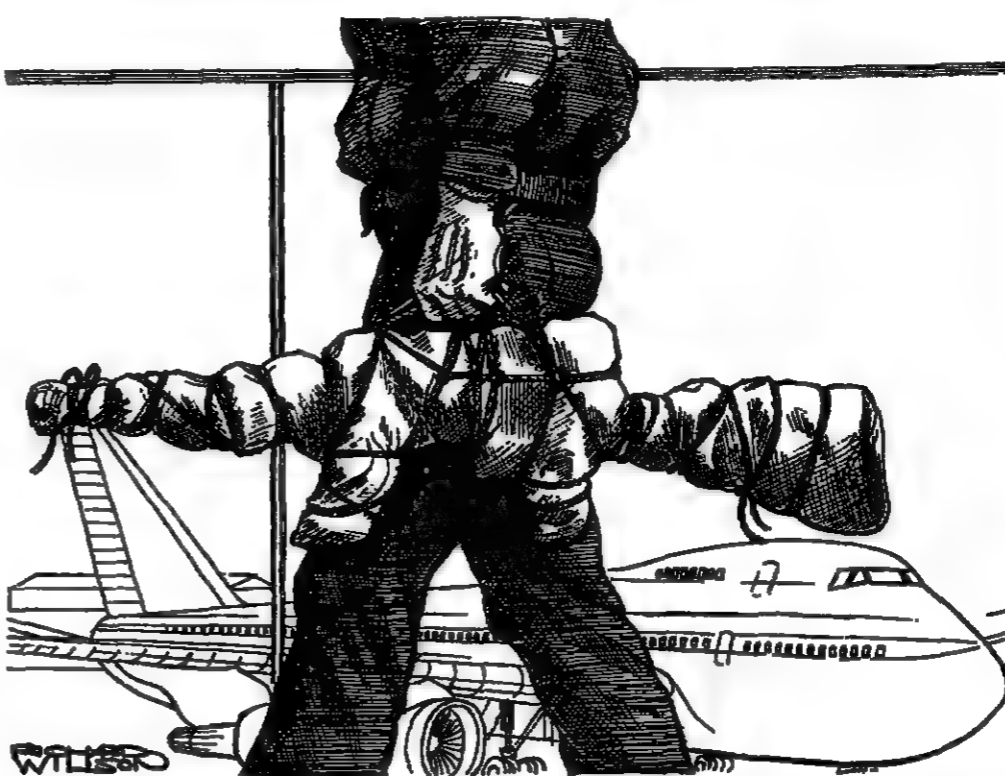
Herr Schmit is a 19-year-old student. Liestal, his home town, is nothing very remarkable, but it has one enormous advantage: it is less than 10 miles from Basel, where you can eat magnificently — indeed, second only to the great Girardet — at Stucki, in the Bruderholzallee. Unfortunately for Mark, the restaurant is expensive, and since he has just gone down the hole for £700 before the magistrates of Crawley, he may not feel like pushing the boat out for a bit. If, however, he will give me his address and telephone number, I shall be happy to take him to Stucki for lunch the next time I am in the vicinity.

I can hear the indrawn breath of tens of thousands of shocked readers; has it come to this, that Levin the Lawlike is on the side

of the criminals — nay, is offering a reward to some miscreant who, they shouldn't wonder, has been knocking old ladies on the head and snatching their handbags? Peace, friends, peace; do not turn the page. I do not admire, or even condone, the offence for which Mark was fined £700 (with £30 costs). But for what he revealed to the world about Gatwick Airport by his offence he should be saluted with three times three.

Mark had flown from Zurich to Gatwick on the day of his adventure, and was making for Vancouver; the airline he was to travel with was Wardair. While he was waiting, he decided that a pleasant way of passing the time would be to find an aeroplane, seat himself in the pilot's seat and start the engines. (At the court hearing, he explained that he had no intention of actually flying the aircraft; cautious folk, these Swiss.)

So he strolled about the airport until he came to another Wardair plane, which was parked where technical staff were working on a fault. He popped into the cockpit, settled himself in the captain's chair, and began to press buttons. One of the buttons caused a sharp blast of high-pressure air to be emitted from an engine; this alarmed the engineers working on the aircraft, and they hastened to the cockpit to see what had happened.



There they met our young friend who, on being asked who he was and what he was doing, replied "Leave me alone — can't you see I'm trying to fix the plane?" (Cool folk, these Swiss.) For some reason, the engineers didn't believe him (suspicious folk, these engineers) and the police were called, whence the subsequent appearance before the Crawley bench, and the fine.

Yes, I know very well what you are thinking; you are thinking that Levin is not only an accessory to a fairly serious crime, but is drunk as well. For how, you ask, could any of this happen, let alone all of it? What, you demand to know, about security?

The answer is exquisitely simple. It is that, at Gatwick, there isn't a great deal.

What there is, however, is a magnificent game of Pass the Parcel. The airport authorities, when the legal proceedings were

finished, put out a statement; in it, they said that they had not even been aware that a breach of security had taken place. And they said it not as a matter for shame, confession, apology and immediate resignation, but as a defence of their conduct. You see, they explained, such security was nothing to do with them.

Groping for something to make sense of this business, I stumbled upon the second half of Gatwick's effrontery. Translated from Weaselish, what they were saying was that they didn't need to take steps to stop all the planes in their vicinity being blown to pieces, because under government regulations such safety measures for the aircraft are the responsibility of the airlines, so don't blame us, blame Wardair. (Oh, I shall, I shall.)

Wardair, no doubt engaged in what is technically known as damage limitation (an unfortunate phrase in the circumstances, but I can't stop for such niceties

now), admitted that they were at fault and promised that in future they would try to ensure that their aircraft were not left lying about where absolutely anybody could wander aboard at leisure; they didn't actually say that they would also fix notices to the doors of each aircraft reading "Putting bombs on this plane is illegal and could be dangerous", but I am sure they will do that in due course. After all, they did say that they may (my italics, but, I assure you, their may) employ full-time security men to watch over their aircraft on the ground.

Back now to the authorities at Gatwick. Do they really think that because it is Wardair's legal responsibility to look after its property, there is no need — legal requirements or no legal requirements — for them to double up such precautions as, say, ensuring that the entire perimeter of the areas where the planes of any company are parked is properly and permanently guarded against unauthorized access

(which, after all, would have made this episode impossible), or taking it on themselves to see that the nature and quality of the security provided by every airline using the airport is fully adequate, or that all airlines using Gatwick give proof that their parked aircraft are watched by security personnel at all times, together with about 37 other similar items, the 38th being that the man now in charge of security at Gatwick Airport, who would be the wair of a hangin', should go away as soon as possible, and not come back?

As far as I can see, the only person in this business with any sense at all is Mark Schmit, the defending counsel, Mr Simon Scammell, who said that both the airport and the airline were guilty of lax security, and that if someone can get aboard an aircraft as easily as this there must be something wrong.

Well, yes, actually, quite a lot. In a sense, it all goes back to the natural and instinctive feeling of human beings that although terrible things happen every day, those terrible things will not happen to them. And statistically, of course, they are absolutely right. The murder in mid-flight of hundreds of people is one of the most dreadful plagues of our times, but the odds against any particular one of us suffering such a fate are thousands to one, in our favour. So we go aboard with a light heart (well, unless we are going by Wardair). But those in charge of security, whether of airports or aircraft, are employed precisely and only to stifle that feeling in themselves, and to behave at all times as though the odds are reversed.

By that test, the authorities of both Gatwick and Wardair, whatever their legal shares of responsibility, failed. If they will not admit it, a more drastic means of persuasion is at hand. They will have to be sent up in a plane flown by Mark Schmit, who will be wearing the only parachute.

Fowler: a blow for Commons common sense

Jack Straw urges radical change to give MPs a better family life

Politics and family life are, potentially, a lethal combination. Norman Fowler's resignation last week as Employment Secretary to spend more time with his family should therefore be applauded. It would be wonderful if it were to bring about changes in the workload and pressures on politicians. Those pressures today debilitate and undermine family life and lead to the grossest discrimination against women MPs. And they are unnecessary.

There is a perverse futility about the way our Parliament and Cabinet work. All this work, work, work leads not to better government but to bad government, and bad-tempered government at that. It need not be so. Moreover, if normal, sane men and women are to be attracted into politics, it must not be so.

The House of Commons sits for longer hours, and for more days in the year, than almost any other national parliament. Ministers are expected to exist without sleep; and though the demands on opposition front benches are different, they are often little less. For every MP

constituency work has increased.

In the last century Parliament rarely sat between the "glorious twelfth" (of August) and the New Year. Gladstone, as prime minister, was able to spend many weeks on his north Wales estate. William Henry Hombury, a predecessor of mine as MP for Blackburn, represented the town for 23 years, from 1887 to 1910, and during that time uttered not one word recorded in *Hansard*. It was said that he was "too shy". But he was returned four times with thumping majorities.

Hombury reportedly brushed off criticism of his silence at Westminster by saying that at least he spent time in the constituency (of which he and his family owned a large part). Other MPs never went near their constituencies for months on end. Trollope's *Phineas Finn* used to visit his constituency once every six months. Even in the period after the Second World War many MPs had only cursory contact with their constituencies.

"Sir," the late Sir Hubert Ashton told a constituent who had the temerity to question his affection for the town which had elected him to Parliament, "I was elected to represent Chelmsford at Westminster, not Westminster at Chelmsford."

Even those with excellent reputations as constituency members did not necessarily visit their seats with great frequency. The late Anthony Crosland, who had a well-deserved reputation as constituency member for Grimsby, normally visited the town only once a month.

It would be a lucky man (and man it would be) who could survive like that today. People nowadays have much greater expectations about their rights; the telephone has made MPs much more accessible. I know of no MP on either side whose constituency workload has not multiplied even in the 10 years in which I have been in Parliament. I used to manage on one constituency surgery a month,

by appointment only. I now run six, open to all comers, and still cannot meet the demand. Next Friday evening will be the only one I shall have at home between now and Easter.

Ministers are expected to keep up with this constituency work, and still deal with the business of government. Mrs Thatcher's dominant position, and the way she suddenly intervenes if things go wrong, make for great insecurity and nervousness among her ministers. Most deal with their dread of a telephone call from Number Ten (or worse) as an adverse headline in the *Daily Mail* by becoming workaholics.

Opposition "shadows", by definition, do not have the same direct burden of paperwork and decision making; but we have more than enough to do, with far less help. There are only three people in my Commons office (one of them an unpaid student), and one in Blackburn. Merely opening the post takes one person two hours. As with all my colleagues in the Shadow Cab-

net, it has become physically impossible to deal with all but the most important non-constituency mail.

The responsibility, the intellectual and emotional burden of parliamentary and ministerial office will always be great. But it could be better carried, with less effect on our families, if parliamentary sessions were reorganized, the hours changed, and if, above all, greater certainty were introduced.

The dates of recesses are rarely announced more than two weeks in advance. Scottish MPs are particularly badly hit, since Parliament may not rise for the summer recess in late July until the last week or so of the Scottish school holidays. What kind of family life does that make for?

Planning any kind of social life outside the House during the week becomes a game of roulette, because we never know what the whipping will be, what votes will be required until the Thursday of the week before. On top of that there is the simple fact

of broken evenings, and late nights. For male MPs with young families it can be bad enough. For women MPs, much worse. For MPs of both sexes whose families are hundreds of miles away in their constituencies, the strain can be appalling.

Of course, it can be said that all of us are volunteers. We know what to expect when we sought election; so too, perhaps, did our spouses. But if we are volunteers, our children are conscripts. They have to put up not only with the disruption of their lives, but the potential invasion of their privacy by an ever more prurient popular press.

If we ever achieve a situation in which the House of Commons began truly to reflect British society — so that half the total number of MPs are men, and half women, many with young families — the current work pattern would be changed overnight. But so long as individuals and their families are expected to sacrifice so much, we may never achieve that situation.

The author is Labour spokesman on education.

Getting by on amnesty and eggs



CLEMENT
FREUD

public acclaim?" — and we discussed the tendency on the part of motor manufacturers to give their vehicles inappropriate names: there was a Ford Popular which everybody hated; a Rapid which seemed to go at no speed at all; I had a Gazelle which guzzled oil, while antelopes, to the best of my knowledge, exist on a fat-free diet; scowling men drive cars called Sunny; I have tried unsuccessfully to stretch my legs in a Relax; perhaps it is time to invoke the Trade Descriptions Act.

In fairness it is not just motor vehicles that are named to confuse. In politics I used to spend much time explaining to foreigners that our government

departments are expressly named to confound the general public: we have a Department of Defence that deals with attack, a Minister for Sport who spends his time on hooliganism and drugs. The Secretary of State for Transport is overlord of traffic jams, while Education has responsibility for illiteracy. Health for sickness, Environment for pollution...

Buying a Skoda this year is probably as effective a way of manifesting approval for the actions of the good people of Wenceslaus Square as any, for Czechoslovakia has severe economic problems and is desperate for hard currency. As a result of devaluation the average 30-year-

old white-collar worker takes home £150 a month. Mr Robert Maxwell could probably buy up the country's labour force with his loose change; one has an uneasy feeling that he might do just that, for since the coup there has been much industrial unrest. In the good old days (by which I mean the politically bad old days that ended last month), promotion was confined to members of the Communist Party. Today, former communists — however unwillingly they joined in order to do better — have been dismissed from their jobs and are given a hard time by their wives and their neighbours. What is more, the general amnesty for prisoners serving short and medium sentences has meant that great numbers of factory workers went home to join in the celebrations — as a result of which factory work was disrupted. It is also noticeable that boardrooms around the land have bare patches on the walls, for the pictures of Mr Husak have been taken down and there are, as yet, insufficient pictures of Mr Havel to fill the space.

The next months are going to be most exciting.

"Did you have a good Christmas?" I asked a Czech journalist, who keeps me informed, and with whom I have kept up a warmish relationship over the years. He said it had been good, nationally, Czechs were happier than ever, though his family had had to make do with a mushroom omelette for Christmas dinner. I sympathized, for the consump-

tion of large meals is an important part of Czech life. He explained that it had not been a case of hardship; the traditional carp, which East Europeans eat on the evening of December 24, had been delivered five weeks before and been put in the bath, which is the way of it. By the time it came to killing him and preparing him for the pot his wife and children had become so very fond of the old fish — and there was all this enthusiastic talk about freedom — that no one was prepared to be the executioner, and on the morning of Christmas Eve the carp, like the prisoners in the Czechoslovak jails, was retrieved, and freed in a nearby lake.

He asked whether I would like to hear about the mushrooms that went into the omelette. I told him I was thinking of buying a Skoda Favorit.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

JOURNEY TO VILNIUS

This week President Mikhail travels to Vilnius, capital of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic — a title whose days may be numbered. It would be interesting to know whose idea it was that he should make the trip. If it was his own, he is exhibiting political courage which borders on rashness.

Last month's resolution of the party's Central committee plenum merely recorded, with intriguing opacity, that "the plenum... considers it advisable for M. S. Gorbachov, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to travel to Lithuania". This could be a poisoned chalice: President Gorbachov will need all his undoubted political skills if he is to return to Moscow with his own authority, and that of his party, undented.

At its 20th congress in December, the Communist Party of Lithuania, struggling for political survival, proclaimed its independence of the CPSU by a majority of over four to one. It also declared the party's "most important aim" to be the creation of an independent democratic Lithuanian state.

Within five days, Mr Gorbachov had convened an emergency plenum of the CPSU's Central Committee to consider the implications of the Lithuanian comrades' UDI. His opening report was a magisterial analysis of the dilemma which confronted the party. But it offered no solutions.

Some, said Mr Gorbachov, favoured allowing the Lithuanians to go their own way; they were wrong — the unified structure of the CPSU must be preserved. Others favoured "harsh stances" and "extraordinary measures": they were even more wrong — authority imposed by force was weak, not strong. So where could he go from there? To Vilnius, resolved the plenum.

According to the Lithuanian delegation with whom Mr Gorbachov had discussions in Moscow last week, he has already conceded the principle of independence for their party. If so, this will be seen by conservatives in the Central Committee as a damaging defeat and a betrayal of his recent public commitment to the unity of the CPSU. But Mr Gorbachov, ever the pragmatist, may have judged that since there was no hope of persuading the Lithuanians to reverse the decisions of their congress, it was as

well to concede the principle straight away — in Moscow rather than in Vilnius — and to concentrate the future argument on modalities.

What he needs is time. If he can persuade the Lithuanians not to formalize the split, and above all not to secede from the Union before the 28th Congress of the CPSU next autumn, he will create at least a chance that the new-style federal structure for the Soviet Union which is in gestation — and which the congress will be asked to approve — will be sufficiently attractive to induce second thoughts. This might apply, moreover, not only in Vilnius but also to Latvia, Estonia and other republics which may be flirting with the idea of secession.

Mr Gorbachov will be taking to Vilnius a small carrot and a weak stick. The carrot will be a preview of the new Soviet federation, within which the three Baltic republics can expect to add significantly greater political autonomy to the privileged economic status which they already enjoy — perhaps even including independent consular representation overseas.

The stick will be the threat of economic sanctions. In his report to the December plenum Mr Gorbachov pointedly noted Lithuania's almost total dependence on the rest of the Union for raw materials and energy. But this would be a two-edged weapon: the three Baltic republics together account for an extraordinarily high proportion of the Soviet Union's total exports of manufactured goods and Mr Gorbachov's interest must lie in increasing the golden eggs, not in starving the goose.

The Lithuanian party will argue, unanswerably, that if they dilute their proclamation of independence, they will be annihilated by the Sajudis opposition in the elections due next month. Mr Gorbachov will urge them, for the sake of perestroika, to make enough concessions to see him through the crucial plenum of the Central Committee at the end of this month at which he has to report on his Vilnius mission. The conservatives will be lying in wait. By an ironic twist of history, Mr Gorbachov's political future — and with it that of the Soviet Union — could lie in Lithuanian hands.

TOUR OF EUROPE

The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Toshiki Kaifu, today begins a tour of Eastern and Western Europe which carries unusual political significance. Not only will he demonstrate his country's increasing role in world affairs, but he could have chosen no better moment at which to do so.

Japan has long been criticized by its Western allies for not taking on a political role commensurate with its economic strength. Until now, however, there have been two basic difficulties. In the first place countries in the West have lacked a clear notion of the part they want the Japanese to play. In the second place the Japanese themselves have been both confused about their place in the world and reluctant to assume it.

The events of recent weeks in Eastern Europe may, however, have helped the right answer to emerge. As the euphoria which followed the overthrow of totalitarianism dies away, a whole family of nations have been left suffering a gigantic hangover. The stress of trying to find the right political formula for the future is matched only by the strain of trying to adapt their run-down centralized economies.

East Germany may be able to look to Bonn for much of what it needs in terms of money and technology. But the other countries of Eastern Europe will find it harder coming to terms with the new realities of the 1990s. To do so they will need considerable help in developing economies which can supply consumer needs, thus providing a base for workable democratic systems.

Although the general public has been generous with its charity, the focus henceforth will be on governments. But governments, particularly those in Europe, may find it hard to offer the sort of sums that will be needed. This is where the Japanese should play a role.

The first point about Mr Kaifu's mission, the first combined tour of Eastern and Western Europe by a Japanese Prime Minister, is the unaccustomed speed with which Japan has stepped in, despite the uncertain political situation. It has already committed itself to provide aid for the new governments in Poland and Hungary and more is expected to follow. Yet this comes from a country which is usually

cautious in making policy decisions and which abhors nothing more than political uncertainty.

The second point is the fact that Mr Kaifu is the first leader of a developed nation to make such a comprehensive tour, encompassing both East and West, since the revolutionary changes in Eastern Europe. Mr Kaifu and, more significantly, the bureaucrats who will still be there after his time in office have made a decision to be in on the ground floor of the new Europe. This is despite the fact that they are half a world away and have had (and will continue to have) equally demanding calls for the establishment of genuine democracy in Asia.

Japanese interest in Europe is hardly altruistic. The Tokyo government may be seen as providing diplomatic support for its own industry. None the less, it is uniquely qualified to serve Eastern Europe's interests as well as its own. Few countries, apart from West Germany, have such experience in building competitive industry from disaster, while Japan has the added advantage of coming to the region without historical handicaps.

Japanese firms come with the right attitude moreover: building for the long-term future rather than the next balance sheet. Their technology and methods of organization could work a rapid turn-round in countries used to the disciplines of totalitarianism but starved of almost everything else. Japan, above all, understands that a flourishing democracy will need fertile economic soil.

The other side of the coin is perhaps the more difficult for Japan to come to terms with. The countries of Eastern Europe will need more than cash, advice and good intentions to make a success of their economies. Japanese trade with Eastern Europe is small at present. The real challenge for Mr Kaifu will be in finding ways to import more of what Eastern Europe produces. The best hope, for the present, seems to lie in raw materials.

But it will not be enough in the long term. Japan must be prepared to do more business of all kinds if it wants to derive the full benefit of trading with a much enlarged European market.

begin in a small way by phasing out the immunities granted to religious killing from compliance with the basic pre-stunning condition of slaughter required by law in Britain. The Farm Animal Welfare Council has strongly recommended that this should be done. It takes little imagination to think of the reasons for lack of progress so far.

Hospital claims

From Mr Nigel H. Harris
Sir, A report in today's *Times* (January 2) indicates how crown indemnity for hospital medical staff (against claims for negligence) will in part be financed.

You state that health authorities will pay the first of £300,000 of negligence pay-outs from a fund of £31 million — previously used to pay two thirds of doctors' subscriptions for defence cover.

Above the £300,000 80 per cent will be paid from the defence authority's reserves. It should be stressed that the latter will only cover outstanding claims as at January 1, 1990.

Your report does not mention the daunting fact that there are

over 200 cases of brain-damaged children awaiting settlement — and for each one the likely award will be £400,000 to £1 million. Another unreported fact is that in 1988 the cost of medical negligence litigation was conservatively estimated at £50 million and rising.

The crown indemnity scheme now in operation will not fairly compensate patients damaged by medical negligence; and the delay in settlement will be even longer than hitherto, causing additional distress. It will not protect doctors against unreasonable claims because health authorities will wish to settle claims at minimal cost, irrespective of merit, and clinical independence will be compromised.

All this is bad enough. We now know what some of us predicted — namely, that the funds set aside to cover costs are grossly insufficient. Health authorities will carry this burden and the effect will be felt by patients who are always the first to suffer when cost saving takes precedence.

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL H. HARRIS
(Consultant orthopaedic surgeon),
St Mary's Hospital,
Praed Street, W2.
January 3.

Church financing school control

From the Reverend M. H. Bryant
Sir, Dr J. C. Gibbins (January 2) has drawn attention to the problem of funding the administration of schools under the provisions for local management. My situation may help to answer his question about the funding of this internal administration.

As chairman of governors I am already involved in internal administration, though I am not yet involved in finances. I have actually been included under the heading of "senior management" by local authority staff and advisers. The work involved has been steadily growing for some time, and has reached the point where it is not uncommon for me to spend two days a week in administration and the burden of studying associated documents.

This is, presumably, classed as voluntary work. But the time spent on it is time in which I am not available for the work for which I am actually paid, which is to work as vicar of my parish. The Church of England is therefore, perhaps unwittingly, subsidising the administration of my secondary school, which is admittedly a Church of England aided school. A conservative estimate of the extent of this subsidy is one tenth of the clerical stipend.

This situation will be found in the case of some hundreds of church schools, and something very like it will apply in thousands of others. One wonders whether the DES is aware of this; in my more cynical moods I assume that it is, and is perhaps congratulating itself on having found a cheap method of financing school administration.

I cannot say what the correct term for the procedure might be, but as a moralist I might well call it parasitism. It is only because my congregation is thoroughly committed to the Church's work in education that they have made no complaint about being deprived of priestly ministry.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BRYANT,
St Alban's Vicarage,
Stanhope Street,
Birmingham 12.
January 2.

Pinpointing property

From Mr D. C. T. Frewer
Sir, Mr Gresham's suggestion (December 30) of using a grid reference system for pinpointing the location of properties is already in use... in the Mojavar area of Andalusia (Spain).

There is a voluntary organisation (Help) which seeks to meet the emergency needs of the considerable English-speaking expatriate community has found that this is a practicable and simple solution to the problem of describing the whereabouts of villas which are often built off main roads and without identifiable street addresses. Yours faithfully,
D. C. T. FREWER,
Windrush Lodge, Middleton Park,
Middleton Stone,
Oxfordshire.
December 30.

Keeping it short

From Professor Emerita T. C. Barker
Sir, Postal addresses, especially for large institutions to which many people have to write, should be much shorter. We all have our favourite examples, often running to six lines or more. Why are we all made to write out these long addresses which are really needed only to enable callers to find them?

Why cannot brief postal addresses (perhaps made even briefer after consultation with the Post Office which already has the second half of postcodes to pinpoint them) appear at the head of a letter and the fuller details, needed for callers, be printed lengthwise at the foot?

Yours faithfully,
THEO BARKER,
London School of Economics,
Department of Economic History,
Houghton Street, WC2.

Airfield development

From the Chief Executive,
Aerodrome Owners Association
Sir, Moyra Logan (January 2) is right to emphasise the need for aerodromes and general aviation to take account of the impact on local communities of aviation activities, but three points should be made in response.

First, smaller aerodromes have a vital role in ensuring the development of aviation, which is vital to the continued well being of the country.

Secondly, the closure of smaller aerodromes in most cases does little to improve the environment. The loss of West Malling, a green field site, to a business park would not seem to be much of an improvement. Similarly, the closure of Burnaston, in Derbyshire, is an example of an environmentally-compatible activity being replaced by a car factory.

Lastly, airfields are an important national ecological resource which are maintained in a stable state because of their aviation activities. For example, a number of rare plants are protected at Farnborough and at Nympsfield an important geological site is preserved because of the presence of the airfield.

No airfield is devoted entirely to

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Winning prizes and losing markets

From Professor J. H. Slater
Sir, Mr David Davis's article ("Science: too pure by far", January 4) accurately analyses one aspect of Britain's poor record of scientific discovery, technological development and advanced industrial and commercial success, namely the over-emphasis of the value of pure scientific research.

It is not surprising that impressive "bright young people" are attracted to pure science when all the measures of scientific excellence consistently relegate indicators of applied research and development to the second (or lower) division.

However, of considerably greater significance is the attitude of industry itself towards its scientifically-orientated employees. Most aspiring young scientists, even at the stage of entry into tertiary education, perceive that career structures, development and remuneration are better in management/business employment than technically-orientated employment; while many high-quality graduates who may not fully appreciate this before leaving university rapidly do so afterwards and abandon dedicated research and development career paths.

Unless and until there is a radical change of attitude by industrialists and a willingness to allow commercial and technical career paths to work in parallel, with an equality of financial reward, it seems to me pointless to channel new or redirected resources into applied research and development.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD SLATER,
University of Wales
College of Cardiff,
School of Pure and Applied
Biology,
PO Box 915, Cardiff.
January 5.

From Professor John Brignell
Sir, The curious thing about David Davis's article is that he feels that any of it needed saying at all. He is fighting a battle that has already been won. British research is in tatters, and much that now passes for research would once have been called industrial development.

Curiously, he raises the spectre of overweening physics. Yet in the early 1980s, I was writing and broadcasting, as an engineer, giving concrete evidence of a dramatic decline in British physics, and forecasting serious effects on engineering and industrial innovation which, I believe, is now coming to pass.

I have been one of the few fortunate to receive generous industrial funding, and have been able to set up a modest research institute without a penny of Government money. The Dutch Government, which apparently

War crimes trials

From Mr Greville Janner, QC, MP
for Leicester West (Labour)
Sir, Barbara Amiel believes ("War crimes: a flimsy case", January 3) that prosecutions of alleged Nazi war criminals in Britain will "twist and distort our system of justice". And certainly, on the question of witness evidence, she has convinced herself that normal identification procedures will be bypassed.

She ought to study the Government-commissioned report on war crimes by Sir Thomas Hetherington and William Chalmers. She will find that the only proposed changes to the rules are those that accord with current practice. On all other aspects of investigation and trial — and that would include witness identification of the accused — the report rightly stipulates that normal procedures of justice should be strictly adhered to. The reason? Because, say the commissioners, "Everyone is entitled to a fair hearing by a tribunal".

Ms Amiel flinches from the idea of trials, because she thinks of Nazi killers as "psychopaths".

That may be so in specific cases, but according to the rules of evidence which govern "our sys-

tem of justice", the mental condition of an accused person is a matter for the appropriate authorities to decide. And if the court finds no evidence of insanity and is convinced of the accused's involvement in the murder of non-combatants, does Barbara Amiel really think that those who commit such terrible crimes should be absolved of all responsibility for them?

Yours etc.,
GREVILLE JANNER,
House of Commons,
January 3.

From Mr John Marshall, MP for
Hendon South (Conservative)
Sir, Sir Thomas Hetherington, former Director of Public Prosecutions and Head of the Crown Prosecution Service, believes that the quality of the evidence against suspected war criminals in several cases is sufficient to justify a prosecution. In other cases he recommended further investigation. How can Barbara Amiel gainsay the view of the leading expert in assessing the quality and suitability of evidence?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MARSHALL,
House of Commons,
January 3.

From the Chairman of the Society
for the Protection of Unborn
Children
Sir, We are saddened by the decision taken by the acting Government to legalise abortion ("Ceauescu's children", Monday Page, January 1). The fact that this was linked with the abolition of the hated village destruction programme shows the level of priority which members of that Government attached to this "right".

This is perhaps explicable in view of the fact that the re-criminalisation of abortion in 1966 was part of a drive for births which involved intolerable harassment and violation of privacy. The forced subjection of women to monthly gynaecological inspections in the workplace and the harassment of single people and childless couples by means of fines and propaganda were detestable.

However, these abuses could have been corrected without resorting to legalising abortion. Human rights are absolute: we cannot pick and choose. The right to life is so fundamental to a just society that the Romanians may find it difficult to establish freedom and liberty they desire — and deserve — over the bodies of the unborn.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN RABJOHNS, Chairman,
The Society for the Protection of
Unborn Children,
7 Tufton Street, SW1.

receives Mr Davis's approval, have set up two lavishly funded institutes in the same field, sensor technology.

Last year all of the leading European laboratories in the field were visited by a Japanese Government-sponsored committee of a dozen academics and industrialists. The knowledge such visitors show of our published work is almost frightening. One could cite such differences of attitude endlessly, and their economic outcome is self-evident.

As a life-long and active Conservative I find it distressing that under our Government there has been a need for an organisation called Save British Science, and I am bewildered by Mr Davis's perception of the scene. He can certainly feel reassured that the threat of further British Nobel prizes is greatly diminished.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BRIGNELL,
University of Southampton,
Department of Electronics and
Computer Science,
Southampton, Hampshire,
January 5.

The new Romania

From the Chief Executive,
Business Aircraft Users Association Ltd
Sir, The Director of the Airfields Environment Federation states that the business and sporting sector of aviation needs to be seen to understand that noise is the major constraint on airport development. It is inappropriate to link these two sectors.

Business aviation, which is a major contribution to the nation's wealth and employment, has invested in modern technology at considerable cost. The turbo-jet business aircraft of today performs its task with very little impact on the environment either by way of noise or a need for an elaborate infrastructure of buildings, railways, or roads.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK LEGGETT,
Chief Executive,
Business Aircraft Users
Association Ltd,
PO Box 29,
Wallingford,
Oxfordshire,
January 2.

A Saxon palace in disrepair

From Mr W. Dudley White
Sir, In May, 1988, I revisited Dresden, which I had previously seen in 1938. I found the Zwinger, the baroque palace of the kings of Saxony, in a rather forlorn state. The damage done by the fire-raid of February, 1945, had been in part restored, the buildings were re-roofed and the windows glazed; but the interior was not open to the public and scaffolding on parts of the exterior already showed signs of age. The bridge over the moat was still temporary and the gardens in the courtyards were rough grass. I found only one stonemason at work restoring the damaged stonework, some of which stood on the ground in a fenced enclosure.

Now that East Germany has rejoined the free world the time seems right for an act of atonement and reconciliation. Those whose forces brought about the destruction of one of the treasures of European civilisation could help to restore at least part of the Zwinger, so that it can be opened to the public as a tourist attraction.

I look forward to the formation of a committee, here and in the United States, to achieve this end. Yours truly,
W. DUDLEY WHITE,
66 Upper Park Road,
Brightingsea,
Colchester, Essex.
December 27.

Agenda for Nato

From Dr David Lowry
Sir, Lord Carrington ("Peace in permanent session", January 2) is correct to argue that Nato should extend its role in arms control, in light of the revolutionary political changes that have taken place in Eastern Europe. However, he is, if anything, too modest in articulating the new agenda for Nato in the 1990s.

For instance, Nato has for a long time sponsored limited cultural programmes and technical research in transport safety and environmental affairs, especially through the Advanced Studies Institutes Programme, at Enore Majorana Centre, in Erice in Italy. These programmes should be extended.

Furthermore, in August the fourth review conference of the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), will be held in Geneva. With 141 member states including the depositaries (the UK, USSR and US), the NPT is the world's most extensive multilateral nuclear arms control and disarmament treaty.

Nato as an institution could play an important co-ordinating role for this conference. With France a part of the Nato political structure and yet not a party to the NPT, the Quai d'Orsay in Paris should be encouraged by Nato to join the treaty.

Last September, when France held the presidency of the European Communities, its ambassador gave glowing support to the NPT regime at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) annual conference in Vienna. Signing the NPT with full Nato backing is the next and most logical step.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOWRY (Director),
European Proliferation
Information Centre,
258 Pentonville Road, N1.
January 3.

Fuchs and H-bomb

From Mr Charles J. Perrin
Sir, You report (January 4) that recent American historical research suggests Klaus Fuchs contributed nothing to the Soviet manufacture of the hydrogen bomb.

I do not know whether or not this claim is accurate. However, it may be of interest to those pursuing the debate for me to record a vivid personal memory. Before and at the time of his death in 1988 my father, (Sir) Michael Perrin, was often referred to as "the man to whom Fuchs confessed". This was so; and later, when it was appropriate, my father told me about that time.

For a whole day, at the end of which my father said he felt years older, Fuchs poured out the story of what he had told the Russians — far more than had been suspected. He seemed to my father to be trying to help him to assess the Russian position in the light of his information.

Your article raises the issues when and how Russian scientists were able to develop a hydrogen bomb. The reply to my father's questions about Russian progress on the atom bomb may be relevant to the current debate. Certainly he was struck by Fuchs's dismissive response: already (that is, before 1950) their interest had moved on from the atom to the hydrogen bomb.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES PERRIN,
4 Holford Road, NW3.

Unseasonal pastime

From Mr C. P. Stent
Sir, As we enter the 1990s with a greater awareness of our environment, I fear that it may be indicative of the changing weather patterns, as a result of global warming, that we were playing croquet on our lawn in Kent on the first day of this new decade. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.
CHRISTOPHER P. STENT,
Primrose Cottage,
Hazelton Farm,
Cranbrook, Kent.
January 2.

THE ARTS

Fiction?
reality
is betterTELEVISION
Oscar Moore

Drama-documentary makes an uneasy hybrid. It lacks the terra firma of hard facts, wallows too deep into the mires of costume drama to convince as history and misses the quick footing of simple fiction. Show and some, the *South Bank Show* Pasternak special (ITV) was quickly bogged down in this cross-generational swamp. Drenched in soft-focus camerawork and drowned by the portentous tones of Robert Powell, reading from Pasternak's journals, Andrei Nekrasov's story was so heavily handled it barely flickered into life.

Playing the poet novelist, leashed and then exorcised under Stalin's regime, Alexander Smirnov remained unrelentingly morose as Powell's drone took us deep into Pasternak's torrid sentimentalities.

For those who know little about Pasternak, the film remained an expensively dressed enigma, revealing information more by accident than by intent. The sudden interruptions with archive footage, breaths of fresh (factual) air among all the syrupy "drama" communicated more in a few seconds than the rest of the film managed in its 105 minutes. Suddenly the context leapt into frame; action, danger, and adrenaline replaced gloomy introspection and corny romanticism.

On the centenary of Pasternak's birth we deserve a more critical analysis of this Nobel-lauzate Russian, born into Moscow's fin-de-siècle intelligentsia and "employed" by Stalin as one of the regime's literary commentators.

Requiring no such costly setting, *The Last African Flying Boat* (BBC 2) survived on that documentary staple, the exotic backdrop. Also intact with archive material (this time of colonial Africa) David Wallace's film proved more interesting than his flashback.

Following the attempts of an optimistic French businessman and a taciturn Canadian pilot to re-open the commercial flying boat service from Cairo to the Cape, using original war-era Catalinas, writer Alexander Fraser constantly bumped his nostalgic nose on a hard modern truth: that today's Africa, rent by war and famine and stifled by bureaucracy, is no longer that vast expanse of free terrain in which the Happy Valley set cavorted. Fraser proved a cheerful if lumpy companion on a journey strewn by personality clashes and the unrelenting threat of rebel missiles.

TOMORROW

No laughing matter: Jasper Rees on the parlous state of television comedy in Britain and why it's not funny enough

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Memorable in that they scaled the heights from the pit

"*Othello needs Othello*". Peter Conrad writes in his programme-book essay for Covent Garden's production: "the opera redeems the play". Trevor Nunn's outstanding recent Shakespeare production for the Young Vic, with Willard White in his first spoken title role, has made that statement even more difficult to swallow. But Covent Garden's revival of Elijah Moshinsky's 1987 Verdi production almost persuades us again of its truth.

There was more nocturnal queuing in the rain; more seats going (rumour has it) for £1,000. Plácido Domingo was back again and so was Katia Ricciarelli. Above all, Carlos Kleiber had

returned to the pit and, if truth be told, it was his influence that was most far-reaching, his inspiration that raised the evening to a level of achievement commensurate with its expectations.

Domingo's ovations duly flooded the arena when his time came. But, tellingly, it was Kleiber who received the first surge of spontaneous, heartfelt applause. It came in response to a reading of the score which was little short of entire musical stage management; and that, of course, must be the ultimate Verdiian goal.

It is Kleiber who makes us first feel Othello's short-lived warmth of peace as he prepares for "Già nella notte": it is many months since

OPERA
Hilary Finch
Othello
Covent Garden

the Royal Opera Orchestra has sounded like this. In Iago's description of Cassio's imputed dream, the imagination is worked upon mesmerically by the cunning phrasing of the muted strings, the artful timing of each disturbing cadence. Rarely have the experience of Iago's contrivance and Othello's suffocating pain been captured so simultaneously.

There is the glee of the conspiratorial woodland as Cassio is trapped into lover-talk; the fresh revelation of Verdi's richly illustrative accompaniment to the Willow Song; and much, much else. This is not, however, to undercut the achievement of the cast. There is, indeed, more consistent and corporate engagement this time in the relationships of Domingo, Ricciarelli and Justino Diaz than ever before.

Domingo himself starts with the shadow of constriction in the top of the voice, but turns it to dramatic profit by transmuting this initial tension into the cutting edge of hysteria, present even as Othello contemplates peace. With

Ricciarelli half-voice at its purest and most potent, this is already too much of love.

These are neither truly great acting performances — they live too much by the practised archetype to be that — but in their tortured interchanges, as much as in isolation, it is the range of vocal nuance, in movement, dynamic and colour, which charges the drama.

Moments such as Domingo's "Dio! mi potevi scagliar", traversing the entire range of utterance, or Ricciarelli's opaline "Ave Maria", rare in its vitality of *mezza voce*, realize the highest in Verdian art. Justino Diaz, too, is now en-

tirely inside the role of Iago, sidling round his sliding lines, understanding the nonchalance of his cynicism, with disgust dripping from his fingertips as he brushes away the sign of the cross. Physically, this performance is as strong as it has ever been; vocally, it is still more finely detailed.

In the rich Venetian human tapestry of Moshinsky's production, there are familiar faces from two years ago: Anne Mason's Emilia as eloquent of movement and attitude as of voice; Gwynne Howell as Iago's equally sympathetic Lodovico; and above all, Robin Leggate's Cassio, a performance of grace, quick intelligence and expansive vocal artistry.

Heather Neill on the first British production since 1966 of a classic of African theatre

From Africa via Leeds

Insistent African drumbeats suddenly reverberate through the dreary Lambeth rehearsal rooms. A group of black musicians and dancers are perfecting a sequence from Wole Soyinka's *The Lion and the Jewel*, singing, repeating rhythmic gestures, building an elaborate mime of a city stranger's arrival in the jungle in a weedy motorcar.

The atmosphere is calm, unhurried, despite there being only two days to go to the first performance. The African Players are mounting the first production in this country of Soyinka's best known play since it was performed at the Royal Court in 1966.

It is difficult to see why it has been so neglected, with its subtle, vivid language, its comic plot involving sexual power games and its underlying theme of the confrontation between traditional Nigerian culture and Western notions of progress.

Sidi, the "Jewel" of the title, has acquired a new sense of her own importance since a photographer from the city has published pictures of her in a glossy magazine. Baroka (the chief or Bale), the "Lion", decides to seduce her and make her his latest wife, while Lakunde, the local teacher, tries to persuade her to accept him in a Western-style marriage. This would fit in with his theories of "civilization" while excusing him from paying the traditional bride-price.

Soyinka wrote *The Lion and the Jewel* while studying for an MA at Leeds University in the late Fifties. He sent it to the Royal Court and was immediately offered a script-reading job. The language of the play is startling, undoubtedly African in imagery and rhythm, yet demonstrating such a mastery of English structure and vocabulary that it seems quite within the European tradition as well.

Baroka, shocked by Sidi's initial refusal of his advances, declares: "Did I not, at the festival of Rain/



Authentic dancing: Jello Edwards as Sadike, the chief's head wife

Defeat the men in the log-tossing match? Do I not still with the most fearless ones? Hunt the leopard and the boar at night! And save the farmers' goats from further harm? And does she say I am old?"

Lakunde is described as both a popinjay and a chirruping cuckoo. It is easy to see why the *Times* reviewer in 1966 suggested that it was necessary to go back to the Elizabethans to find a parallel for Soyinka in English drama. Khadiro Mahdi, the artistic

director of the African Players and director of this production, admits that the language presents a challenge for the actors, some of whom were born in Britain, some in Africa. The varied cultural backgrounds of the cast underline the mix of the play — the old and new of the plot and the African English of its style.

For Erayri Onomwori, who plays Sidi, it is a stimulating experience: a Londoner born of Nigerian parents, she feels she is learning about home. While she

loves the poetry of the language, she has found it no help in acquiring a Nigerian accent. "It would be easier if it were in broken English."

She has had to learn to dance authentically too: "I am, so Westernized. In each cultural movement is different, so I found it difficult at first." She has become an enthusiastic participant, however, and the dance sequences, with music specially developed by Adesede Wallace, promise to be spectacular.

For the 23-year-old Onomwori, the theme of the play is as relevant as ever. "The things which Lakunde predicts — cutting down the forest, building roads through villages — are happening now. Cultures can be lost."

Mahdi, committed to building up a repertoire of African plays, sees *The Lion and the Jewel* as ideal for his company. "It has everything: music, song, dance, ritual, masquerade. It is a popular comedy, but with the theme of post-colonial development."

Lakunde, the advocate of Western ways, is at once an accurate prophet and a bit of a fool, sometimes equating progress with the trivialities of Western culture: "Where is our school of ballet dancing? Who here can throw a cocktail party?" he cries.

Mahdi and his assistant director, Kayode Adesimi (who plays Lakunde) run the company on a shoestring. They have small grants from the Greater London Arts Association, South East Arts and the London Boroughs Grants Committee, but are unable to mount the tour they had planned. There will, however, be three performances outside London.

Performances from tonight until February 3 at the Bridge Lane Theatre, Battersea, SW11 (01-228 8828); on February 8 at Brighton Polytechnic, on February 15 and 16 at Leeds Polytechnic.

Music does not always go according to plan

Music composed to fit a premeditated ground plan often fails to take flight in performance. Two of the works in this BBC Symphony Orchestra Invitation Concert, well prepared and meticulously conducted by Rupert Bawden, fell into that category.

First was Lukas Foss's *Quintets*. His self-imposed rules are that there shall be five groups each of five instruments, and that the interval of the fifth shall be paramount. The piece is subtitled "When the rocks on the mountains begin to shout", a quotation from Charles Ives, and with its naked intervals and dour melodic

CONCERTS
Stephen Pettitt
BBC SO/Bawden
BBC Maida Vale

regularity it has a certain monumental quality. There are patches when things become more exciting, when, for instance, brass choirs engage in complex entwined fanfares, but one misses the conviction of an Ives.

If *Quintets* was rather uninspired, so was Michael Trumpet Concerto is the imaginatively coloured scoring at the end of the slow middle section. It represents St Francis of Assisi speaking — by a characteristic transference — to the birds of Hov in Orkney. Here as elsewhere, the BBC Philharmonic flutes gave particularly fine playing.

In other respects, though, the concerto hardly shows Sir Peter playing to the gallery except in its fearsome trumpet writing. In fact he seems almost dazed by the music. We are told that the music is based on the plainsong

Gandolfi's *Points of Departure*. Gandolfi, another American composer but from a younger generation than Foss, has composed a sequence of four movements linked as if in a circle, the ending of one movement providing the point of departure for the next, and the last, "Ritorno", leading back to the orbit of the first, "Spirale". The textures and colours are more delicately imagined than Foss's — the work is scored for a modest chamber orchestra — and his third movement, "Visione", seems deeply enough felt. Otherwise it is a matter of conceptualized textures, especially

in the first two movements. Nothing moves, in any sense. The distance between these two pieces and the rich, dark, poetic and dramatic world of Simon Holt's understated *Proms* commission of 1987, *Synseng*, was vast indeed. Holt's violent, beautifully strange score is the product of a real imagination, of a mind which dreams ideas and metamorphoses them into music rather than beginning with the business of notes and numbers. It was given a marvellous performance too, not least by the distanced solo trumpeter. Might we have a commercial recording?

As a series of episodes rather in the manner of a set of symphonic variations. Each of the dozen or so small sections has its own orchestral colour and its own rhythms. And each explores aspects of the material presented in the slow introduction, leading eventually to the almost slinky trumpet melody in the final shimmering orchestral tutti. If the music lurches a little in moving from one section to the next, that is in the nature of the form. But heard in that way the work comes across as an unusually lucid structure, managed often with considerable imagination and deftly.

Allegria, *Franciscus Pumper* (an early melody that was only later adapted to new words to make it appropriate for St Francis); but hardly a trace of that melody appears. Presumably it had been subjected to some elaborate chromatic permutation process; but the knowledge that it may be there is of absolutely no help to the listener. And we are told that the work is in a taut sonata form, whereas its broad structure is in many ways closer to that of the Baroque concerto grosso.

But even that is hardly likely to help you enjoy the music. It seems to me that the only way to hear it is

Richard Morrison
Auryn Quartet
Wigmore Hall

We might be approaching a golden age of string-quartet playing, if all the outstanding young ensembles formed in the 1980s develop to their full potential. The Cologne-based Auryn Quartet came together eight years ago, when its players were all members of the European Community Youth Orchestra. On Saturday one could easily admire their unusually silky and subtly nuanced Haydn (Op 74, No 1), or their vivid but never overstrained dynamic range in Wolf's *Italian Serenade*, which was turned into a delicate and nimble shadow-play. In fact, though, one left the Wigmore thinking of nothing except Schubert, for the Auryn gave a compellingly dramatic and magnificently assured performance of his last quartet — the G Major, D 887 — which left no room for doubt as to these players' abilities or emotional response.

The fascination of the G Major

Quartet lies in hearing the triumphant musical language of Schubert's "Great C Major" Symphony — the vast paragraphs, endless triplet motion and awesome modulations — splintered into tragic fragments. It is as if Schubert, having glimpsed some private Promised Land in the "Great C Major", turned back in this quartet to survey the vista of his own nearly spent mortality, a surreal landscape where broken hopes stalk like ghosts, and every momentary brightening turns dusty or sour.

Yet this is not a pessimistic work, or at least not if it is performed with much passion and intelligence as it was here. The struggle between the changing moods in the outer movements is too absorbing; so, also, is the way in which Schubert's sublime lyricism asserts itself at the end of the traumatic slow movement, or in the dream-like trio of the otherwise terse scherzo. In such passages the Auryn Quartet beguiled with a silvery tonal beauty, elsewhere, they rose superbly to the epic challenges presented by the expressionist terrain of tremolos and stark octaves.

Drama loses on points

THEATRE
Benedict NightingaleSeven Lears
Royal Court

Howard Barker is not the first contemporary playwright to have decided that something needed adding to what most would regard as the complete tragedy. Back in 1971, Edward Bond wrote a variation on Shakespeare's original, suggesting, among other things, that the King made his daughters evil. If one of them punctured a captive's eardrums with a knitting needle while the other screamed "I want to sit on his lungs", and both proceeded to treat their father pretty shoddily, it was because Lear was a poor role-model, being a murderous tyrant and not a very caring parent, either.

Barker's apocryphal contribution is an account of Lear's upbringing, youth and reign which implicitly makes that point too. No wonder there is something amiss with Goneril and Regan — in Tricia Kelly and Philippa Vafardari's performances a blend of sentimentality, malice and sheer gormlessness — when their father closes himself in a tower and broods helplessly about the cruelties he is inflicting on Britain.

But that is not what Barker wants mainly to emphasize. For him the missing factor in the original is any mention of the girl's mother. So he supplies her in the form of Queen Clarissa, a virtuous daughter of Lear's favourite whore and throughout the play a moral reproach to him and everyone else. Even Cordelia finds her crusading conscience more than she can bear — and it, in fact, the prime mover in her murder.

Barker's apparent point, that the good as well as the bad may corrupt the more ordinary, is interesting enough; but it is made at some dramatic cost. Jemma Redgrave, who plays Clarissa, is understandably unable to bring to life "absolute moralities are frequently the refuge of misanthropy", "your eyes are narrow with a cruelty that distorts your normally kind features" and other such lines. The plot of the character's rectitude becomes more oppressive than her author realises.

Still, there is some fun in seeing Barker play anachronistic games with the Lear myth. The King forces a truck-mounted roller with constructive plans for social reform to be his Fool; he whimsically makes a sex-obsessed vagrant

Earl of Gloucester; he diverts the state's resources to the building of a flying exercise bicycle, only to imprison its inventor when this "plane" crashes; and worse, much worse.

When Shakespeare's Goneril said "the best of his time hath been but rash", she clearly understated. This king leads his troops to disaster, and fails to help the keening spectres swathed in netting who, in Kenny Ireland's resourceful production, represent his rotting prison population. Yet he also agonizes over his sins and regularly asks his subjects to kill him. Imagine an amalgam of Hamlet and the late President Ceausescu, and you have Barker's Lear.

Yet the play still doesn't really work. Part of the problem is that Nicholas le Prevost, a somewhat prim and severe actor, is more farrowed introvert than plausible megalomaniac. But the real trouble is that it is hard to take



Nicholas le Prevost: introverted

Barker's dramatic mix as seriously as he evidently hopes. He might have done better to stick to exuberant burlesque, after the manner of Jerry's *Uta Uta*, than decide he had complex, challenging, timely things to say about politics, power and the conflicts of good and ill. How (for instance) can we regard the influence of an androgynous cynic with a white face, rouged cheeks and a bishop's hat as an adequate explanation for Lear's evolution from sensitive child to tormented despot?

But with his *Scenes from an Execution* arriving at the Almeida tomorrow, and the present company bringing *Gogo* to join *Seven Lears* at the Court on Friday, we have plenty more opportunity to assess a writer capable of being alternately and sometimes even simultaneously imaginative, banal, comic, facetious, lyrical, flat, stimulating and silly. And if on this occasion his limitations outweigh his strengths, as I fear they do, the balance may be different later in the week.

John Tomlinson's Mephistopheles is a brilliantly diverse performance... splendidly sung. *The Observer*

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Faust
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Valerie Masterson as Marguerite: "She looks like a Dresden shepherdess and sings like an angel — enchanting and incredibly moving" *Yorkshire Post*

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COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 6. Today being the Feast of Epiphany, a sung Eucharist was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, when the customary offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were made on behalf of The Queen by Air Marshal Sir Roy Austin Smith and Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Vickers (Gentlemen Ushers to Her Majesty).
The Bishop of London (Dean of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal) was the Celebrant and presented the Offerings, assisted by the Reverend Canon Anthony Caspary (Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal) and the Reverend Hugh Mead (Deputy Priest in Ordinary).
The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the Chapel.
January 7. Divine Service was held at Sandringham Parish Church this morning.
The Bishop of Oxford preached the sermon.
Her Majesty presented The Queen's Gold Medal for Academic Excellence at the King Edward VII High School, King's Lynn, to Narasim Iyengar, who was introduced into Her Majesty's presence by Mr R Griffiths, the Headmaster.

Ascot June 19-22, 1990

Her Majesty's Representative at Ascot wishes to announce that there will be a limited number of Royal Enclosure vouchers available for new applicants only for Friday, June 22, of the Royal Meeting.
New applicants wishing to apply for these vouchers should write to Her Majesty's Representative, The Ascot Office, St James's Palace, London, SW1A 1BP, before March 31, stating the full names of those members of their family who require vouchers, together with their ages if between 16 - 25 years. Sponsorship forms will then be sent which should be signed by a sponsor, who has been present in the Royal Enclosure for at least eight years. A ballot will be held and all new applicants will be notified of the result by mid May.

Previous holders of Royal Enclosure vouchers should apply in writing in the usual way before the end of April, stating their full names and ages if between 16 - 25 years. In addition they may also apply for their children aged between 16 - 25 years, who have not been granted Royal Enclosure vouchers previously. They will require a sponsor who has been present in the Royal Enclosure for eight years. Vouchers if granted, will be valid for the Friday only of the Royal Meeting and should be applied for before March 31. In the enclosure ladies will wear formal day dress with hat which must cover the crown of the head. Gentlemen will wear morning dress with top hat, or service dress.

Party

Lady Mayor and Lady Mayoress
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained children connected with the City, livery companies, HM Forces and London boroughs at a fancy dress party held at the Mansion House on Saturday.

Dinner

Medical Officers of Schools Association
Dr J.H.D. Briscoe, President of the Medical Officers of Schools Association, presided at the annual dinner held on Saturday at the Great Western Hotel, Strand, London, when Mrs Patricia Marshall and Dr David Harvey also spoke.

Mr Nicholas

Freeman
A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Nicholas Freeman, late Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, will be held in St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, on Thursday, January 25, 1990 at 6.00 pm. Application for tickets should be made to the Mayor's Secretary, The Town Hall, Hornet Street, London, W1N 7NX. Tickets will be despatched one week before the service.

Science report is on page 5

Pick of the week



W.H. Oakley, London S.E., a fine polished mahogany bodied, a binomial magic lantern. Estimate £300-1,000

Mr J.A. Fellows and Miss E.J. Atcheson
The engagement is announced between Julian Alexander, youngest son of Mr Perceval Fellows and the late Mrs Perceval Fellows and stepson of Lady Maureen Fellows, of The Court, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, and Emma, only child of the late The Hon Mrs Charles Kitchen, of Croftlands, Romsey, Hampshire.

Mr E.D. Roberts Jr and Miss R.A. Lashley
The engagement is announced between Edward Dawson, son of Mr and Mrs E. Dawson Roberts, of Nassau, Bahamas, and Rosamund Ann, younger daughter of Sir John and Lady Lambert, of Rivermead Court, SW6.

Mr H.C. Appleby and Miss L.S. Kellner
The engagement is announced between Howard Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Appleby, of Findon, W Sussex, and Leslie Susan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Kellner, of Crofton, Maryland, USA.

Mr M. Ayliffe and Miss A.C. Fearns
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of the late Roy Ayliffe and of Mary Ayliffe, of Arundel, Sussex, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Fearns, of Chillingham, Somerset.

Mr L.P. Bradfield and Miss J.M. Alderson
The engagement is announced between Ian, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Bradfield, of Shipham, Somerset, and Janet, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Alderson, of Guildford, Surrey.

Mr J.H. Coorssenay and Miss E.F. Dewar
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Lt Col and Mrs Paul Courtenay, of Quarley, Hampshire, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Gerard Dewar, of Bayona, France.

Mr M.P. Cripps and Miss C.W. Baines
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Cripps, of Le Profond Val, St Pierre du Bois, Guernsey, and Claire, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Roman, of Cuskingny, Cobh, County Cork, Ireland.

Mr A.C. Tinsley and Miss S.A. Hamilton
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Register Office, Spilby, Lincolnshire, of Mr Anthony Cole Tinsley, son of the late Mr H.E. Tinsley and of Mrs E.J. Tinsley, of 34 Beaufort Gardens, SW3, to Stephanie Lady Stirling-Hamilton, daughter of Dr and Mrs William Campbell, of Alloway, Ayr.

Mr P.J. Waterfield and Miss N.M.A. Stewart-Clark
The marriage took place on Saturday in Worth Abbey of Mr Patrick Waterfield, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jolyon Waterfield, of Edge Grove, Aldenham, Hertfordshire, to Miss Nadia Stewart-Clark, second daughter of Sir Jack and

Ms J.A. Tinsley and Miss S.A. Hamilton
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Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.C. Hughes and Miss H.F. Bacon
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.O. Hughes, of Churchleigh, Devon, and Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.H.L. Bacon, of Liphook, Hants.

Mr J.W.B. Jenkinson and Miss P.C. Deakin
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs B. Jenkinson, of Chetton Grange, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, and Pippa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs L.T.N. Deakin, of The Homestead, Bexleyde, Suffolk.

Mr J.C. Mathias and Miss L.F. White
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Mathias, of Westernham, Kent, and Lynn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert White, of High Hurstwood, East Sussex.

Captain T.P. Riall and Miss M.E. Benyon
The engagement is announced between Captain Thomas Riall, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, son of Major and Mrs Patrick Riall, of Knocknaw, Kilmacogue, Co Wicklow, and Mary, younger daughter of Mr William Benyon, MP, and Mrs Benyon, of Englefield House, Englefield, Berkshire.

Mr J.B. Wells and Miss J.M. Graham
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Marriages

Mr C.C.F. Kralke and Miss A.C. Graham
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mrs Charles Kralke, of Kirkland, Monzie, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and the late Mr Charles Kralke, and Alice, elder daughter of Major and Mrs H.M.E. Graham, of St Austins, Gilling, County Wexford, Ireland.

Mr T.M. Lobbeck and Miss L.J. Verdon
The engagement is announced between John Robert, son of Mr and Mrs D. Longdon, of Taupo, New Zealand, and Lesley Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A.D. Verdon, of Worthing, West Sussex.

Mr S.J. Roberts and Miss B.J. Clark
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr Lloyd Roberts, of Holland Park, London W8, and Mrs Alison J.A. Sellers, of Church Crookham, Hants, and of Mrs H.L. Sellers, of Epsom, Surrey, and Anne Beatrice St John, younger daughter of the late Mr A.A.S. Dawson, and of Mrs L. Dawson, of Fording, Lancs.

Mr G.M. Sells and Miss S.J. Stone
The engagement is announced between Guy Michael, elder son of Mr Robert Sells and the late Mrs Robert Sells, of Foston, Spain, and Susan Jane, only daughter of Lt Col (retd) and Mrs Bob Stone, of Sidmouth, Devon.

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TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Prophets of Ulster doom

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

The Irish film-maker John T. Davis can be relied on to come up with documentaries that break the common mould. Not for him the conventional blend of film, interviews and explanatory voice-over. Viewers may recall *Road to 66*, an impressionistic journey across middle America, and *Power in the Blood*, which followed an American gospel preacher's attempt to reach the sinners of Northern Ireland. In *Dust on the Bible* (Channel 4, 9.00pm) Davis returns to Ulster religion with a portrait of the latter-day prophets who stand on street corners and in chapels and proclaim the imminence of the Apocalypse. Dispensing with commentary and interviews, Davis's film interweaves four



Latter-day prophets preach messages of doom to sceptical shoppers (Ch4, 9.00pm)

distinct elements. At its heart is vivid footage of the hellfire preachers delivering their messages of doom to sceptical shoppers and captive congregations. Their fiery words are counterpointed with quiet and measured readings from the Book of Revelation, which express much the same thing in more elegant language. For visual contrast and embellishment Davis uses striking images of the landscape and the seasons — the countryside under snow, a ploughed field, harvest time, the rain-soaked streets of a town at night. His final element is an anonymous stranger who moves mysteriously through the film, presumably representing the common man. *Dust on the Bible* offers a rich texture of meanings, not all of which yield up an obvious interpretation. My possibly incoherent reaction to it all is that since religion is behind so much of Northern Ireland's trouble that the province needs is not more of it but less. *Survivors* (BBC 1, 8.30pm) is a new wildlife series which tries to look at conservation from the point of view of the endangered species. This means, in tonight's opening programme about the wolves of Sweden, pretending that the camera is the animal and inviting the audience to follow its track. To give the exercise greater conviction, appropriate wolf noises are added. Taking us through rolling snow-covered and the still beauty of Swedish forests the exercise has a certain fascination. But it seems a complicated way of telling a basically simple story. Brought up to regard the wolf as a vicious killer, though this is apparently a myth, the Swedes have decided that their country cannot really find room for it.

BBC 1

5.00 *Casualty*.
5.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Winterton and Kathy Wark. Regular news headlines, business news, sport, regional news, weather and travel, a review of the morning newspapers by Paul Callan 8.35 Regional news and weather.

9.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Eamonn Holmes welcomes viewers' comments on Christmas television.

9.20 *Kilroy*. More topical discussion with Robert Kilroy-Silk and his studio audience.

10.00 News and weather followed by *The Flintstones Comedy Show*. Children's BBC, presented by Simon Parkin, begins with *Playdays* (r) 10.55 *Poddington Peas* (r) 10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Eileen Atkins with a reading.

11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*, presented by Gloria Hunniford and Jayne Irving.

12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live Special: My Name is Jane*. Andy Craig presents a special edition about Coley Eldridge, near Llandudno in Wales, a college for people with special learning difficulties, and talks to some of its students who have benefited from its teaching, including 20-year-old Downs Syndrome sufferer Jane Clark. 12.35 Regional news and weather.

1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather.

1.30 *Neighbours*. Anecdotes run high in the Robinson household when there is still no word about Beverly's whereabouts. Harry turns to his wife when his frustrations and feelings over Brownwyn get on top of him, while Helen discovers why Paul doesn't like her portrait. (Ceefax) 1.40 *Going for Gold*. European general knowledge quiz show.

2.15 *Ironside*. *Dear Fren*. The wheel-chaired detective tries to deal with the apparent suicide of Officer Seize's cousin, until it appears he may still be alive. Starring Raymond Burr. (r)

3.05 *Head of the Class*. Eric imagines a *Fawlty* attraction triangle after a kiss with Maria comes on the same day that Seize asks him out.

3.30 *The Pink Panther Show* (r) 3.50 *Dooby Duck's Disco Bus* (r) 3.55 *Stop! and Tidyup* narrated by Terry Wogan (r) 4.05 *Fireman Sam* (r) 4.15 *Skipper*. A new adventure series starring the fearless crime-fighter 4.25 *Jackanory*. Victoria Wood and Martin Jarvis with part five of *Alan Ayckbourn's The Year of the Boar & Leviathan*. Animated cartoon fiction series.

4.55 *Newsround* 5.05 *Star Trek*. With Caron Keating, John Leslie and Yvette Fielding (Ceefax).

5.35 *Neighbours* (r). (Ceefax)

6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Seizens and Jill Dando. Weather.

6.30 *Newsround South East* 7.00 *Wogan*.

7.30 *Major Dad*. A new American comedy series about Major John D. MacGillivray, the embodiment of the US Marines and all things American, and Polly Cooper, a liberal reporter on the *Oceanic* Chronicle who launches a front page attack on the Major. Corps. When they meet their universal differences and opposing views are bridged by love. With Gerald McRaney and Sherry Reese.

8.00 *Blankety Blank*. Les Dennis's guests are John Carson, Doc Cox, Sharon Davies, Jenny Hanley, Mo'Nique and Kevin Woodford. (Ceefax)

8.30 *Survivors: The World Stage*. (Ceefax)

9.00 *Aime O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather.

9.30 *Panorama: Triumph Over Tyranny*. John Simpson with the story of the five-day Romanian revolution that toppled the Ceausescu.

10.10 *See for Yourself*. The BBC's annual report to the viewer continues tonight when the regions present their own report on their schedules and finances.

10.40 *Miami Vice: Bloodbath of Death*. Crockett and Tubbs are back in action when a hooker and her pimp are murdered after blackmailing their clients with photographs. Starring Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas.

11.30 *Advice Shop*. Is British Rail giving value for money? (r)

12.00 *Weather*.

ITV LONDON

5.00 TV-am begins with News and Good Morning Britain introduced by Richard Keys and, from 7.00, by Michael Morris and Linda Mitchell.

9.00 *After Nine*, presented by Kathy Taylor, includes a special feature on the Queen Mother, now in her nineteenth year, and Russell Grant's forecast for the year.

9.25 *Lucky Ladies*. The first of a new series of the game show for couples, hosted by Lianne Bennett 9.35 *Thames News* and weather.

10.00 *The Time... The Place... Mike Scott* chairs the topical discussion programme.

10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes items on astrology, gardening, fashion, teaching babies to swim and Jan Leeming's guide to popular culture.

11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*, presented by Gloria Hunniford and Jayne Irving.

12.10 *Playbox* with Pat Coombes, Keith Chegwin and Marcus Clarke 12.30 *Home and Away*. Carly looks at the life of a young woman who is an alcoholic and asks for help.

1.00 *News at One* with John Suchet. Weather 1.20 *Thames News* and weather.

1.30 *Shocker*. *Mercantile Credit*. Classic. Introduced by Tony Francis from the Norfolk Castle Hotel, Blackpool. Today the players battle a quarter-final play-off.

3.25 *Thames News* and weather 3.30 *Young Doctors*. Medical drama series set in a large Australian city hospital.

4.00 *Not the Elephant*. The first of a new animated series, with the voices of Lulu and Tony Robinson 4.05 *The Raggy Dolls* 4.15 *The Real Ghostbusters* (r).

4.40 *Children's News*. Episode one of a new series of the drama set in the children's ward of a general hospital.

5.10 *Who's the Boss?* American comedy series. A former baseball star struggling to support his daughter. Starring Tony Danza.

5.40 *News with Sue Carpenter*. Weather.

6.00 *Home and Away* (r)

6.25 *Thames News* and weather

7.00 *Wish You Were Here...? John Carter* looks at different ways of holidaying without travelling by plane. *Anna's Secret*. A new series of holidaying in Snowdonia and Judith Chalmers takes a look at the problems of buying a holiday home in France. (Crack)

7.30 *Continence*. Streetwise takes steps to ease her future and Percy Suggden discovers the consequences of opening his mouth one too often. (Crack)

8.00 *Strike It Lucky*. Quiz game show.

8.30 *World in Action*. The Rebel. Peter Hain secretly returns to South Africa after an absence of 24 years for an up-to-date assessment of apartheid and the situation.

9.00 *Files: Secret Witness* (1987) starring Les Phillips, Keith Martin and David Rasche. A made-for-television drama about two 12-year-old friends whose peeping Tom habits lead to them being entangled in a murder. Directed by Eric Laneville. Continues after the news.

10.00 *News at Ten* with Alistair Burnet and Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30 *Thames News* and weather.

10.35 *Files: Secret Witness* continued.

11.00 *Shocker: Mercantile Credit*. Classic. Tony Francis introduces further coverage from Blackpool. Followed by *News* headlines.

12.30am *A Little Touch of Harry*. A behind-the-scenes look at the making of Kenneth Branagh's film version of Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

1.00 *Sportsweek Extra*. Top sports action from around the world, introduced by Simon Reid. Includes the PGA World Skis tournament from Palm Springs; and the weekend's European football results.

2.00 *News* headlines followed by *Files: Warming, Male Sex in Danger* (1988) starring Gerrard Barry and Jean Richard. A police officer inherits a budding when he and his brother, directed by Guy LeFranc.

4.00 *News* headlines followed by 60 Minutes. Interviews and investigations from the United States.

5.00 *ITV Morning News* with Phil Roman. Ends at 5.00.

BBC 2

9.00 *Village School*. *Spring Term* (r) 9.30 *Benjamin in Australia* (r) 9.55 *Benjamin in America* (r) 10.00 *Laurel and Hardy in Men o' War* (1929, b/w).

10.20 *Film: The Marshall of Mesa City* (1939, b/w) starring George O'Brien. Western adventure about a former US marshal who decides to clean up a town being run by outlaws and a corrupt sheriff.

11.20 *Film: Go Chase Yourself* (1938, b/w). Starring Lucille Ball and Joe Penner. Comedy adventure about a bank clerk's wife who unintentionally gives the bank's secret codes away to a couple of crooks. Directed by Edward F. Clive.

12.30 *Amazon Gold*. The search for gold at Serra Pelada in Brazil (r) 1.20 *Postman Pat* (r) 1.25 *Look, Look, Look*. A new series of the children's game show.

2.00 *News and weather* followed by *Songs of Praise* (r) (Ceefax).

2.35 *World Darts*. Highlights of yesterday evening's first-round matches of the Embassy World Darts Championship.

2.50 *Behind the Scenes*. A behind-the-scenes look at the making of *Bergerac*, with John Nettles.

3.00 *News and weather* followed by *World Darts*. Further coverage. 3.50 *News*, regional news and weather.

4.00 *Catchword*. Word puzzle game.

4.30 *Behind the Headlines*. Jeremy Paxman previews the week ahead in the company of other journalists and newswriters.

5.00 *Holiday Outings*. Anna Gregg visits Newmarket (r).

5.05 *Film: Holiday Affair* (1949, b/w) starring Robert Montgomery, Janet Leigh and Wendell Corey. Love story about a war widow with a small son who is about to marry again when another man walks into her life.

6.30 *DEF* begins with *Snub TV*. With *Holly Mondays*, 808 State and the *Stone Roses* 7.00 *A-Z of Belfast*. Orla Haza talks about her belief in progress, justice and love.

7.30 *The London International Boat Show*. Preview.

8.10 *Horizon*: Oil Spill. A documentary examining the technology used for dealing with major oil spills.

9.00 *Film: The Sun Thing* (1985) starring John Cusack and Daphne Zuniga. Romantic comedy about a freshman who hitches a lift with a colleague's friend to California. Directed by Rob Reiner.

10.30 *World Night*. 11.15 *Weather* 11.30 *World News*. The Embassy World Professional Championship.

12.30am *Behind the Headlines*. See 4.30. Ends at 12.55.

BBC1 *Wales* 8.30pm-9.00pm *Wales Today* 9.00 *Wales Today* 9.00-9.30 *Wales Today* 9.30-10.00 *Wales Today* 10.00-10.30 *Wales Today* 10.30-11.00 *Wales Today* 11.00-11.30 *Wales Today* 11.30-12.00 *Wales Today* 12.00-12.30 *Wales Today* 12.30-1.00 *Wales Today* 1.00-1.30 *Wales Today* 1.30-2.00 *Wales Today* 2.00-2.30 *Wales Today* 2.30-3.00 *Wales Today* 3.00-3.30 *Wales Today* 3.30-4.00 *Wales Today* 4.00-4.30 *Wales Today* 4.30-5.00 *Wales Today* 5.00-5.30 *Wales Today* 5.30-6.00 *Wales Today* 6.00-6.30 *Wales Today* 6.30-7.00 *Wales Today* 7.00-7.30 *Wales Today* 7.30-8.00 *Wales Today* 8.00-8.30 *Wales Today* 8.30-9.00 *Wales Today* 9.00-9.30 *Wales Today* 9.30-10.00 *Wales Today* 10.00-10.30 *Wales Today* 10.30-11.00 *Wales Today* 11.00-11.30 *Wales Today* 11.30-12.00 *Wales Today* 12.00-12.30 *Wales Today* 12.30-1.00 *Wales Today* 1.00-1.30 *Wales Today* 1.30-2.00 *Wales Today* 2.00-2.30 *Wales Today* 2.30-3.00 *Wales Today* 3.00-3.30 *Wales Today* 3.30-4.00 *Wales Today* 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Executive Editor
David Brewerton

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6380 (+0.0250)

W German mark

2.7489 (+0.0153)

Exchange index

87.0 (+1.0)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1948.8 (+32.2)

FT-SE 100

2441.5 (+21.8)

USM (Datastream)

156.21 (+3.56)

Light at
the end
of Tunnel
over costs

The six-month conflict between Eurotunnel and its contractors over the cost over-run could be resolved this week.

Executives of Transmanche Link, the Anglo-French contracting consortium, held meetings in Paris at the weekend before final negotiations with Eurotunnel and its bankers in London tomorrow.

The dispute involves rising costs which have swelled the estimate of building the Channel tunnel from the original \$4.85 billion to \$7.2 billion.

Transmanche had suggested the cost would be as high as \$7.8 billion. If the parties accept the \$7.2 billion estimate, Eurotunnel will be able to secure the extra funds it needs from its 208 banks.

Eurotunnel has announced plans to complement more bank lending with a rights issue, probably in the autumn, which the City estimates could raise up to \$250 million.

Should more money be refused, and a further hitch develops, work on the tunnel will probably be halted at the end of the month.

Thai Airways International raised annual pre-tax profits to end-September to \$289.9 million (£177.8 million), from \$258.8 million. Total revenues were up 17 per cent to \$1,813.4 million.

The state-controlled airline, in which Scandinavian Airlines System has a small interest, is expected to be floated in Bangkok next year. Profits were boosted by the growing numbers of travellers from Britain, second only after Japan in flying on Thai.

The power
of waste

National Power is to burn fuel pellets made from compressed domestic waste at a coal-fired power station near St Helens as part of a month's experiment jointly funded by the Department of Energy.

Fuel pellets will be mixed in with coal at the power station and initially 150 tonnes of rubbish a week will be used. If the experiment is successful, 450 tonnes of pellets a week will be used to produce as much power as 225 tonnes of coal.

Westland
£20m deal

Westland Group has won a contract - expected to top £20 million - to supply a sophisticated tyre-pressure-indicating system for the European Airbus A330 and A340 airliner programmes.

The system constantly monitors the tyre pressures of the undercarriage wheels and displays information "on demand" to the pilot via the aircraft computer network.

The contract takes the group's controls-systems business into a new market.

For small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Banknote Bank, PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Banknote Bank, PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Banknote Bank, PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

DTI widens City insider dealing investigation

By David Young

The Department of Trade and Industry has brought in a leading barrister and an accountant to back up its team of investigators looking into fresh allegations of insider dealing among share salesmen and fund managers in the City.

Part of the investigation is understood to be centred on the activities of a group of fund managers at a leading City investment house who have been involved in the flotation of several small companies through one particular corporate finance company.

DTI officials are believed to have been monitoring the dealings of a group of fund managers since late summer. But their investigation has yet to result in a request

for the Stock Exchange to launch a formal inquiry on the DTI's behalf, with a view to gathering enough information for charges to be drawn up under insider dealing rules.

New shares in the companies involved were placed by a group specialising in the launching of new enterprises with several fund managers working at the same investment house. It is understood that some shares in the companies involved had earlier been acquired at a substantial discount by the group of fund managers acting for a separate third company in which they and a senior member of the specialist broking house were also involved.

In a more formal inquiry, the DTI is also reviewing tape recordings made during the

summer of 1988 involving three young City professionals who resigned after admitting they had breached SE rules.

The DTI has refused to confirm or deny that it has appointed Mr Michael Kalisher QC, and Mr Gervase Hulbert, an accountant, to look into allegations that an organized ring of young City professionals deliberately set out to profit from information obtained for that purpose. This investigation is thought to have started in the autumn.

Meanwhile, the latest inquiries have led to increased speculation that the DTI will pass over all responsibility for insider dealing investigations to the Stock Exchange's Securities and Investments Board, chaired by Mr David Walker. The

SIB would then be able to launch investigations without reference from the DTI and would have the power to prosecute. The changes are likely because of increased concern among the authorities that the time taken to launch inquiries and assemble evidence under the current system is allowing some people to cover their tracks.

The Government passed the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act in 1985 specifically to make insider dealing a crime punishable by heavy fines or up to seven years' imprisonment.

Asked about the latest inquiry Mr Kalisher said he could not comment on the matter.

Some reports suggest the investigation goes back to August 1988, when two men

and a woman lost their jobs for dealing in 15,000 shares in Pleasurama, the casino company. The firm's stock market price jumped after the announcement of a £590 million takeover bid from Mecca Leisure.

Bond fails to
put off US
debt deadline

From Martin Winn, Sydney, and Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

Investors in the United States owed Aus\$650 million (£314 million) by Mr Alan Bond's Bond Corporation are expected to press this week for the stricken company to be wound up, despite an eleventh-hour rescue proposal from Mr Jeff Reynolds, an American businessman.

Bond Corp has admitted it failed to gain the support of the US holders of Bond Brewing debentures at an emergency weekend meeting in New York, raising the prospect of further legal action in the Australian courts.

The meeting was called after the US investors, led by Dresel Burnham Lambert, the investment bank, demanded instant repayment of their securities and intervened in a court case in Melbourne to support the appointment of receivers to Bond Brewing.

Mr Peter Lucas, a Bond Corp director, said the company would be unable to repay the debenture holders in full and could not forward them Aus\$41 million in missed interest payments as the cash was frozen by Bond Brewing's receivers.

Mr Peter Mitchell, another Bond Corp director, pleaded with the US holders not to put Bond Brewing or Bond Corp into liquidation, and said the receivers had warned off a potential international investor in Bond Corp. This is

believed to be a reference to tentative plans unveiled by Mr Reynolds to take control of Bond Corp in return for an Aus\$250 million equity injection as well as a large debt restructuring.

Mr Lucas said Bond Corp "looked forward to the next communication" from the hitherto obscure Mr Reynolds, but added that his proposals so far were short on detail.

In Los Angeles, Mr Reynolds said: "We will make a further announcement this week, probably Wednesday, on how we will finance the bid - and shed a little light on who we are as a company and what we are wanting to do. So far, Alan (Bond) and I have drafted some documents and it's been very easy. He and I get along very well."

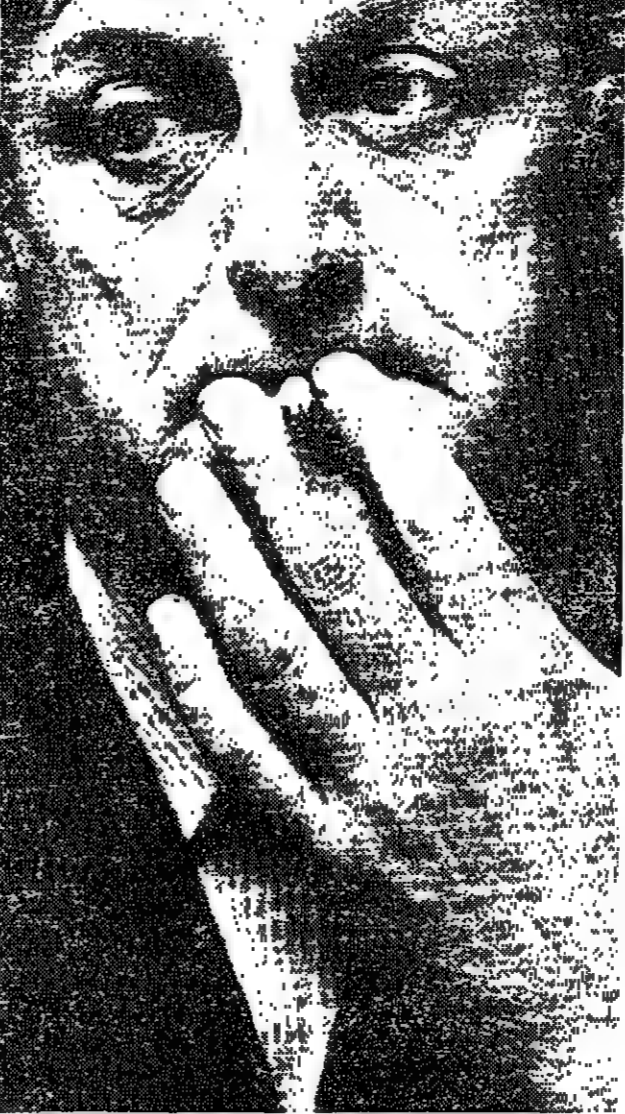
"Some people see this as a crazy off-the-wall deal. But I don't take risks and if this goes through, I reckon there will be one hell of a pay day in about five years from now."

Mr Reynolds, aged 28, a bachelor who started in business at 17, plans to make the deal through Weatherby Investments, a Los Angeles mining, property, oil and gas company, and its Singapore-based parent, California Pacific International, an unknown private concern in which Mr Reynolds holds a majority stake.

Mr Reynolds says he has plans to spin off parts of Bond Corp, and use the money to

Thomson flat out to put deal together
Ferranti's
loss 'set to
top £5m'

By Angela Mackay



Under pressure: Sir Derek Alton-Jones could stand down

Thomson-CSF, the French electronics and defence group, will be fighting the clock and the odds to clinch a deal this week with Ferranti International, the defunct British group.

It is increasingly unlikely that agreement will be reached before Ferranti is required to send notices to shareholders informing them that a £187 million rights issue - underwritten by institutional shareholders - will be triggered.

Thomson, the last of almost a dozen companies who examined a possible rescue bid for Ferranti after executives revealed a £250 million sting, had looked at an outright bid.

But it is unlikely the Take-over Panel will remove a 56p-a-share bid floor price set when Thomson and its former bid partner British Aerospace bought 1 per cent of the company last October.

In addition Thomson unsuccessfully put a 50-50 venture before Ferranti: the French proposed that they would assume management control. Another rejected alternative was a deal in which the French would pay £200 million to £220 million for Ferranti's core defence division.

On Friday, Ferranti will produce interim results which analysts suggest will show a pre-tax loss of between £5 million and £10 million against a £40 million interim profit.

Ferranti and its adviser suggested,

Barings, the merchant bank, early last month announced a standby facility of £187 million which would be triggered if a suitable partner or bidder was not found. At that stage the 10 institutional underwriting shareholders did not expect to stump up more cash.

The 25p-a-share issue compares with the Friday's 31p close. Another problem facing Ferranti is the failure to sell its Marquadt weapons division.

Marquadt was inherited when Ferranti bought international Signal and Control. The US group had been put up for sale along with some UK computer businesses to try and raise £100 million to satisfy Ferranti's bankers.

The 30 banks had extended Ferranti's short term borrowing of £300 million and the cost of meeting the interest charges on this amount will eat into the half-year result.

Ferranti is considering selling the valuable 100-acre site on which Marquadt is located just outside Los Angeles and then leasing back the facilities.

Voss to lead way
in Hoare shake-up

By Neil Bennett

Mr Peter Voss is becoming chairman of Security Pacific Hoare Govett in April to lead the partial management buyout of the broker known as The Alliance Project.

Mr Voss, who will remain as chief executive, will replace Mr Richard Westmacott, head of the firm since 1975. Mr Westmacott is to lead a strengthened European mergers and acquisitions team.

The partial MBO is intended to rationalize the international broking of Security Pacific, the US parent bank.

Security Pacific is increasing its stake in Burns Fry, the Australian broker, to 49 per cent and seeking a partnership with a Japanese institution. It

then hopes its associate overseas brokers will be able to expand back into the US, freed from trade restrictions the parent bank faces.

Plans for the London MBO should be finalized by June and will leave Hoare Govett's managers with 51 per cent. This will reverse a process started in 1982 when Security Pacific bought 29.9 per cent.

Mr Voss admitted Hoare Govett's market-making side, fourth largest in the City, was still not covering overheads but stressed his commitment. "We cannot go back to being an agency broker," he said. "Our securities business only broke even in 1989 but we are looking for a profitable 1990."

GrandMet sounds
out brewery buyers

By Colin Campbell

Grand Metropolitan is poised to exit brewing and focus on branded food, drinks and associated retail interests.

The group - by volume, the world's largest drinks company - hopes to complete its blueprint for the 1990s by the spring. However, analysts are hoping for an earlier announcement. The City expects the plan to involve a pub-for-breweries swap with Mr John Elliott's Elders DXL Courage/Foster's chain.

The future of Grand Metropolitan's brewing interests has been under in-house examination since mid-1989 in the wake of the Monopolies Commission report into the brewing industry, whose recommendations paved the way for a transformation of the industry.

A GrandMet/Elders swap would involve assets whose value tops £500 million should Elders offer the bulk of its 5,000-strong Courage public houses in exchange for GrandMet's breweries.

GrandMet can count on a world-wide audience of interested buyers and has already had sounding talks with its leading brewing partners.

On the brewing front GrandMet has business and manufacturing links with, among others, Elders (Foster's), America's Anheuser-Busch (Beckweiser), and the Carlsberg and Holsten groups.

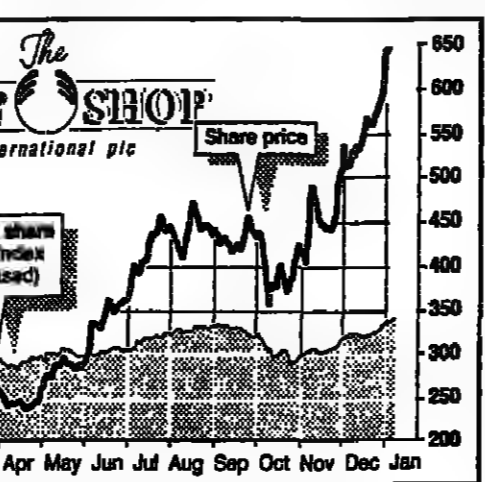
Green revolution lifts Body Shop

By Gillian Bowditch

A surge of investment interest in "green" shares and Japanese-style theme buying has pushed the share market value of Body Shop, Mrs Anita Roddick's environmental-friendly toiletries and cosmetics group, to more than £500 million.

After passing that magical figure last week, Body Shop is now equal in value to Ratners, Dixons and WH Smith, worth £100 million more than Storehouse, £200 million more than Next and is more than 30 times as valuable as Sock Shop and Tie Rack. The shares have been soaring in the last two months, hitting new highs almost every day. On Friday they were 640p, down 4p and only 7p off their all-time high, achieved last week.

Body Shop came to the USM in 1984 at 95p and a market worth of £2.3 million.



While other retailers have suffered, Body Shop has defied gravity, rising from 241p to 651p over the last 12 months. And while other retailers have price/earnings ratios in the early teens, it now sells at 86 times historic earnings. Assuming profits for this year of £16 million the

prospectus p/e is 58. The rating, which in some stocks might indicate over-enthusiasm on the part of investors, does not worry Body Shop fans, who point out that the company has continually outperformed expectations and believe there is still potential for growth.

Some find it ironic that the male-dominated City, known for its conspicuous consumption, should be so keen on a company run by a woman whose main concern is for environmental preservation and the Third World, but it appears the City cannot get enough of Body Shop.

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TEMPUS

Five global winners to mine a rich vein for investors in 1990

We have given a decided international flavour to The Times' five mining shares for 1990. They span Australia, South Africa, Europe, Britain, North America, and Chile, and represent a broad cross-section of interests, taking in gold, base metals and iodine-nitrate properties.

The hope is that the five shares are looking cheap and cheerful this morning, and that by end-December they will be looking fat and happy.

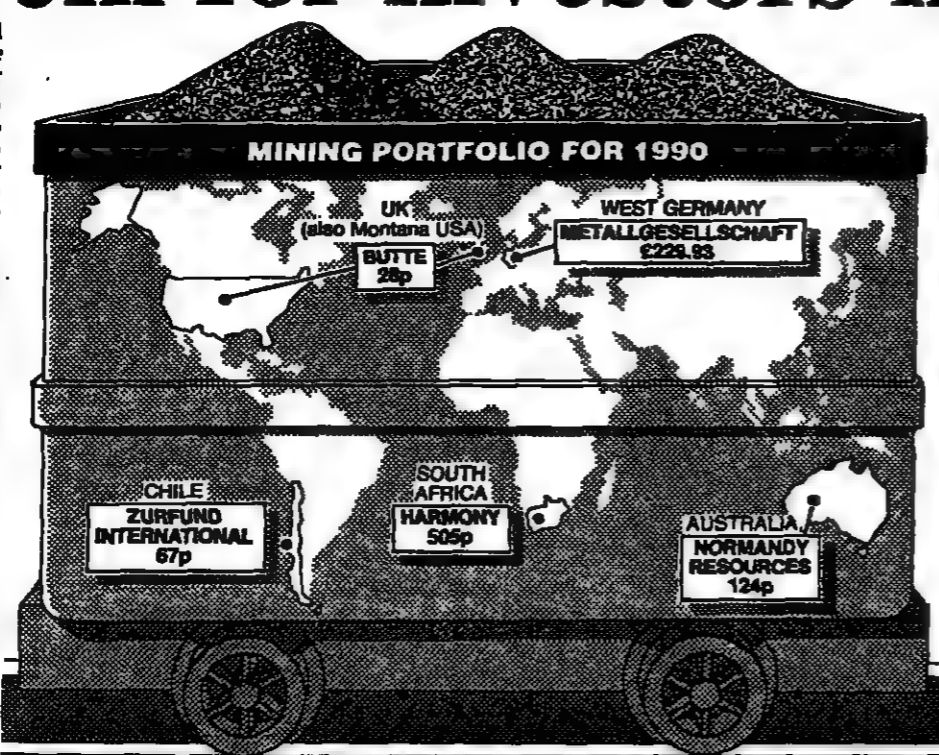
The one share which struggles to claim to be cheap — but which can be said to be cheerful — is Metallgesellschaft, priced at a shade short of £230 each. But investors can buy odd-lots and it is a Rolls-Royce mining finance house of quality. At the other end of the scale, one selection is a mere 28p.

Because of the international flavour and metals and minerals mix, the portfolio will be tugged by currency changes and metal price movements. But mining shares — as the Minorco/Consolidated Gold Fields takeover battle which gripped mining markets in 1988 and 1989 proved — can be rewarding investments, and 1990 could well be another year of takeover activity as more mining groups try to gobble each other up.

Minorco is still bursting with cash and scouring the world for mining assets to buy; RTZ, even after swallowing BP Minerals in its own mining coup, is unlikely just to sit still this year. The Australian majors — CRA, Western Mining and BHP — could be hungry in their own right; the South Africans would love to expand internationally; and South America is no mining joke.

The 1990 selections are: Butte Mining — 28p: If the saying "every dog has its day" is applicable to mining companies, then perhaps 1990 will be Butte's turn to bark. It owns rights to develop and exploit a 1,500-acre area around Butte in Montana, US, which contains established ore reserves of five miles in diameter and extending more than a mile below surface.

These include ore bodies of copper, lead, zinc, silver and gold which were once worked by Anaconda Mining. Modern



technology and mining methods have proved additional mineral potential in the area, while, in Britzin, Butte owns a Stoke-on-Trent operation that processes zircon mineral sand which gives it an entry into the industrial minerals sector of the mining world. Butte also has a sales contract for its lead and zinc concentrates with Canada's Cominco group.

Butte shares were first listed on the London stock market in November, 1987, after a placing at 100p — which then valued the group at £60 million — and at their best touched 178p in initial dealings. However, ever since the blaze of glory at listing, the shares have been in a virtual free-fall.

They now trade in the "cheap and cheerful class" at 28p (all-time low 26p). But Butte, helped by its zircon acquisition, should be reporting profits in 1990 which in turn should put some life into the shares.

Harmony — 50p: The South African gold market proved to be its own gold mine in 1989 as shares took off in response to bullion's late September run. The Gold Mines Index, at its lowest point in February at 154.7,

rose to 317.8 by mid-December, and if there is to be any life in the gold price in 1990, the South African market will again be where the serious money goes — and out of which serious profits come.

Harmony's selection depends on two hopes: that South Africa's international image (and, therefore, its investment appeal) continues to improve; that the gold price ends December on the plus side of \$425 an ounce. On Friday, it traded at \$405.

Harmony is a high cost, low grade producer with an annual output just short of 1 million ounces at an operating cost of about \$350 an ounce. The company passed its interim dividend recently, but may not be absent from the dividend lists for long. The key to a respectable price performance this year though is whether the gold price moves over the \$425 level.

Metallgesellschaft — DM 630 (£229.93): Solid, German, and a group which is in the right places with the right products at the right time — but expensive. Eastern Europe developments, the planned February stock exchange float of a minority stake in Berze-

lius Umwelt Service — the group's fast-growing industrial waste disposal and recycling arm — and investment and operational connections with MTM, Teck and Cominco all add to the share's pedigree.

The historic p/e ratio is 26, the prospective ratio 22.5, but the share price has virtually doubled since last October. None the less, German investors still regard Metallgesellschaft as "good value" — and whatever else happens in the world of mining this year, it will be a survivor.

Normandy Resources — 124p: It is the man — Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny — first and the Australian company second which investors would be backing in this selection.

He has displayed something of a magic touch down the years, and Normandy is where his personal and family fortunes are invested. Fellow shareholders in Normandy include Anglo American of South Africa and Australia's National Mutual Insurance.

Through Normandy, Mr de Crespigny controls Poseidon (né nickel, but now a significant gold company) which last year bought back, from Mr

Alan Bond, the gold mining interests making up the Super Pit at Kalgoorlie for less than it sold them to him in 1987. That was a mining coup in its own right, and more deals along the mining trail which will ultimately impact on Normandy are bound to follow.

Zurfund International — Can\$1.26 (67p): Out with the atlas and turn to Chile — a mining province which is attracting increasing international investment attention and where the established mining giants, such as RTZ, Placer Dome and Anglo American, already operate.

Zurfund, Canadian-listed and followed in London and on the Continent where an estimated 30 per cent of the equity is held, is well spoken of in mining investment circles in La Serena, north of Santiago.

It should be well spoken of in London after February, once London's mining community has been briefed through a series of presentations.

Zurfund's major asset is a significant bloc of high-grade, low-cost, iodine-nitrate properties in northern Chile. In addition, Zurfund has stakes in two gold projects and an interest in copper, plus a controlling stake in a profitable mining machinery refurbishment company. In countries of tough mining terrain, machine workshops are like water holes in deserts.

Japan remains the world's leading supplier of iodine — used extensively for pharmaceutical and sterilization purposes, with additional applications for photography and as a chemical catalyst. But Chile's production costs of iodine which has a world sale price of \$17,000 a tonne, remain the world's lowest.

Annual global consumption of iodine grows at between 3 and 3.5 per cent, and the anticipated strong cash flow from these operations will give added financial muscle to tackle other mining projects in Chile — a country which attracted international mining investment funds of more than \$2 billion last year.

Zurfund's 1989-90 high was Can\$1.43 last year; its low 33 Canadian cents. On Friday, the shares traded at Can\$1.26.

GILT-EDGED

Light filters through to a sector in shade

Any fund manager overweight in gilts must be finding the first few working days of 1990 distinctly uncomfortable. Equity markets around the world have begun the year in apparently fine fettle. Moreover, there must be every chance that they will soon start to enjoy strong support from fund managers struggling to get cash into equities so as not to miss the party — not least because anyone who stuck loyally to gilts during 1989 is probably now not entirely confident about his job!

Many of the fundamental doubts about gilts also remain. The top policy priority for 1989 was to turn around the adverse trend in the current account. Recent trade figures have been encouraging and suggest that the worst here is now over.

The top policy priority for 1990, however, must be to regain control of the labour market and secure an improvement in the 1990/91 wage round after the disappointments of this winter. This suggests a continuing cautious official approach to interest rates.

There are, it is true, some early signs of success here too. The vacancies series has recently begun to fall back again after being surprisingly steady during a summer when the economy was supposed to be slowing sharply. But with reports of a late flourish in Christmas retail spending and every chance that European interest rates will rise this spring (perhaps to be followed by rates in the United States later in the year), to cut short-term interest rates in Britain quickly or aggressively would be foolhardy.

The weakness of sterling, in spite of Mr John Major, the Chancellor's protestations that it is really just due to a strong mark, must also raise doubts about how far inflation will fall.

With the consensus of end of year inflation forecasts now nearer 6 per cent than 5 per cent, the real yield argument for con-



Major: currency question

ventional long gilts is less than compelling. The beleaguered gilt investor need not be wildly bullish, however, to believe that gilts may now be starting to look good value, at least in relative terms. Relative to UK equities, for example, the yield ratio has risen towards post-crash highs as the FT-SE 100 index has pushed through the 2,400 level. Equities have therefore lost their "bargain basement" tag. Indeed, to push on from here, equities need increasingly solid good news if they are to keep their status as the "preferred domestic investment medium" of most institutional fund managers.

This is particularly so since equities have enjoyed the benefit of a reversal of the normal flow of funds, every bit as remarkable as that seen in gilts as the public sector swung into surplus. Last year saw both an unprecedented surge in bid activity (with a third quarter peak — in terms of mergers and acquisitions completed — of £12.5 billion) and a dearth of rights issuing activity.

With the company sector — the main factor behind bank lending growth in recent quarters — increasingly highly geared and thus under pressure from high interest rates, it seems heroic to bet on the bid boom continuing.

Even more stark is the increasing risk that companies will switch back to equity financing with the market at these sort of

levels. If it did, the impact could be dramatic. Recently we estimated an "equity overhang" of about £25 billion as an indication of the scale of rights issues possible should the company sector try to restore its financing ratios to historic norms. Potential issues on such a scale would easily swallow current institutional liquidity and must start to cast a long-term shadow over UK equity market performance.

The cash flow situation underpinning equities thus looks far more vulnerable to rapid reversal than that underpinning gilts, whatever the doubts about the longer term trend in public sector debt repayment.

Indeed, equities could soon find themselves on such unfashionable fundamentals as flat earnings growth and an uncertain longer term economic outlook.

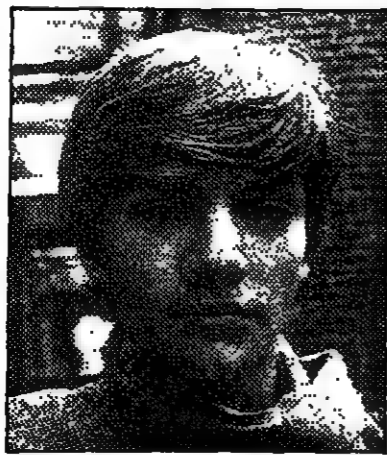
This all suggests a fairly defensive approach to investment during 1990. Certainly, our own assessment of equity market prospects is cautious, with the major indices unlikely to make much progress from current levels.

With the yield curve so aggressively inverted, it is tempting to switch into cash instead. Looking out through the year, however, if short rates do indeed fall as expected, looking into gilts at current levels must appear increasingly attractive to many institutions.

Looking for gilts to outperform breaks most of the historic precedents, but then we are moving on from a remarkable year in the equity market. Gilt holdings are at record lows as a percentage of institutional portfolios. Moreover, the doubts last autumn about a switch in official funding policy have receded. We would thus now be nervous of being underweight in a market which has been pushed into the shade of late.

George Hodgson
Investment Strategist
Citicorp Securities
Vickers

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Kingfisher launches presentations as war of words attacks managers

Dixons video lifts fight profile

By Colin Campbell

The war of words between Kingfisher and Dixons — now locked in a £561 million takeover battle — has moved to attacks on each other's alleged management weaknesses, and the public profile of the fight is to be raised through videos and shareholder presentations.

Mr Stanley Kalms, Dixons' chairman, said Kingfisher was out to buy his group on the cheap, while Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy, Kingfisher's chief executive, accused Dixons' management of having "failed".

Mr Kalms said Kingfisher's management had "enough problems of their own without attempting to integrate yet another even larger acquisition", and added that Kingfisher's 120p cash offer "is looking less serious by the minute".

Mr Mulcahy asserted that "the inescapable conclusion of any analysis of Dixons is that since the mid-1980s, the core business has gone seriously backwards, while the market has advanced. The management has failed and the business cries out for a new professional approach."

Mr Kalms said sales per square foot at Kingfisher's Comet operations had declined and that Comet underperforms its main competitors when measured by this yardstick.

Today Kingfisher starts a series of presentations to Dixons' shareholders outlining the case for its takeover bid, the next closing date of which is January 23. At the first closing date, Kingfisher had received acceptance of 0.13 per cent. Dixons is offering a video to its followers.



'Only scratching surface of market': Rupert Gavin expects nearly a quarter of stores to include a small business section

Store-in-store chain 'to double'

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

A chain of 41 store-within-store business centres, built up by Dixons since May last year, is powering sales so much that the number of such centres is likely to double.

Mr Rupert Gavin, group commercial director, said Dixons outlets including a business centre have recently had 11 per cent higher sales than unmodified Dixons stores.

The centres are targeted at

smaller businesses, including professional firms like those of accountants, solicitors and doctors.

Mr Gavin said: "It was while selling personal computers that we identified smaller businesses as a strong niche market. What we can offer in the centres is a wide range of hardware and software, highly-trained staff to sort out what a business needs and at what a standard of service."

Prices are also competitive, he said, adding: "We are only

scratching the surface of this market."

There are more than 1 million small businesses, but the industry's computer sales to them amounted to £4,000 in 1986, £44,000 in 1987 and £66,000 in 1988, according to Rometec, the specialist researcher.

Given the likelihood of multiple computer use within many companies, there is probably a potential smaller business market for machines of about 5 million, Mr Gavin

believes. He therefore expects the number of Dixons business centres to double fairly quickly. It would mean that nearly a quarter of the 350 Dixons stores would incorporate a business centre.

Competition to supply the market is growing. Wildings, the electronic goods chain, is also offering a wide range of hardware.

Others like Tandy and outlets tied to key computer makers tend to be "single-label" retailers.

Reporting This Week

Ellis expected to reach £7.5m

TODAY

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, is looking for a 49 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £7.5 million for the half-year at Ellis & Everard, Britain's leading distributor of chemicals.

The first half is thought to have been slightly mixed with pressures on British volumes, where slower sales growth reflected the weakness in the economy, although margins should hold up.

Any squeeze in Britain should be offset by a much better outlook in America, boosted by contributions from the United States. American turnover is estimated to be about £70 million, up 159 per cent.

Analysts believe that Goode Durraat, the industrial and financial management company, will do well to achieve the forecast of £6.5 million, before tax, in the first half, compared with £5.47 million last time.

Housebuilding may make modest progress, with relatively strong growth from the North-west despite the South-east having been hit particularly hard.

Tomkins, the industrial holding company headed by Mr Greg Hutchings, is expected to report interim pre-tax profits of £23 million, against £19.1 million, accord-

ing to Hoare Govett, although forecasts range from £22 million to £25 million. Profits will be boosted by a good performance from Murray Ohio and Smith & Wesson.

Tomkins should be well placed to achieve the full-year forecast of £77 million.

Thames Water will be the first of the newly-privatized water companies announcing results this week. None of the companies has published comparable figures, so they will be of little importance.

The statements which come with the results will be of greater interest. News will be eagerly awaited on operating margins and volume growth — as well as any further big stakes.

Interests: Anglo Engineering, Cooper Clark, Ellis & Everard, Emcor Dual Investment Trust (quarterly), Fisons, Goode Durraat, M. Holdings, Newsprint, Olin Convertible Trust, Thames Water, Tomkins, Vero Ring, Fisons Trust, Wharfedale.

TOMORROW

Kamick, the care services and leisure group, is expected to show pre-tax profits of £7.8 million for the year, against £5.1 million, according to Panmure Gordon, the broker.

Profits will be boosted by first-time contributions from five of the care-home acquisitions. News on last September's £87 million purchase of Bell-Fruit Leisure, the amusement machine manufacturer and operator, will be

of interest. The group is now the second largest amusement machine operator in the country.

The explosive growth in the video industry should benefit Parkfield Group, the manufacturing and entertainment mini-conglomerate. The video side has seen considerable growth, now accounting for almost half of turnover.

Citicorp's Springgear Vickers is expecting half-time pre-tax profits to rise from £6.81 million to £11 million, with a healthy contribution from the engineering side which has seen good organic growth.

UBS Phillips & Drew expects Countryside Properties, the Essex housebuilder and commercial property developer, to lift its final taxable profits to £21 million, against £19.3 million, helped by the commercial property division.

Interests: Anglian Water, Buckland Austin, Howdon Group, Parkfield, Welsh Water Authority, Fisons, Countryside Properties, Hawthorn, Kamick.

WEDNESDAY

Half-year pre-tax profits at First Technology, the security and safety systems company, are expected to climb from £1.92 million to about £3.5 million. The increase will be helped by continuing strong trading conditions for the sensors, dummies and fire-protection activities.

VPI Group, the financial and corporate communications company, is expected to show full-time pre-tax profits nearly halved at about £7.2 million, against £14.1 million.

This follows problems with the Carter Organization, the American acquisition bought in 1987, which has dragged profits down and is currently under investigation by the US tax authorities.

Interests: Banks (Sidney C. Cowart, de Groot, Fairbank, First Technology, Hambro & Bonson and Money Market Fund, Metrosid Securities, North West Water, Western Water, Wyle Group, Foster Alexander Holdings, Economic Forestry Group, M&D Dual Trust, Southern Business Group, Toris Air, VPI Group.

THURSDAY

A big reduction in final profits is expected at Sir Nicholas Goodison's TSB Group.

Analysts' forecasts range from £300 million to £355 million, compared with £420 million a year ago. The mortgage portfolio, where the TSB has the greatest exposure of all the clearing banks, has seen margins "cut to ribbons".

Interests: Jones, Broad (Holdings), Metrosid Securities, North West Water, Northern Water, South West Water, Southern Water, Yorkshire Water, Foster Alexander Holdings and General Trust, Devonshire, TSB Group.

FRIDAY

Interests: Investment Co, Property Trust, Security Archives (Holdings), Fisons; None announced.

Philip Pangalos

Innovation spending 'set to rise'

By David Young

More British companies are planning to increase spending on market research, research and development, training and test marketing this year than ever before, according to the Confederation of British Industry.

A preliminary analysis of a survey into spending on innovative activity conducted by the CBI shows that four out of 10 companies plan to spend more on such activities in the coming year.

The survey also showed that fewer than one in 10 plan to cut spending on innovative activity.

Mr John Banham, the CBI director general, said: "If Britain is to succeed in world markets, UK firms will have to boost their investment in innovation."

"Investment, in all its aspects, is the key to tackling the balance of payments deficit and curbing our inflationary tendencies. The results of this survey are encouraging confirmation that British business recognizes the need to continue to invest in innovation, despite the short-term problems caused by high interest rates and pressure on operating margins from government-imposed costs like higher rates, water and electricity charges."

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ECONOMIC VIEW

Setting the parameters of a 'safety first' Budget

When the Chancellor and his senior officials gather in the library at Chevening at the end of this week, the key words will be "safety first." In this first run through the Budget options, the Treasury team will have to take some initial decisions on what safety in this context means.

It is becoming clearer that the policy differences between Nigel Lawson and John Major have been exaggerated. There will be no dramatic switch of emphasis from monetary policy to fiscal policy in a move away from so-called one-club golfing. The aim will be to set a firm fiscal stance to buttress a continued firm monetary policy.

Mr Major inherits a public sector debt repayment this year likely to be some way below the £14 billion forecast in the last Budget. Expectations seem to be for something lower even than the Autumn Statement forecast of £12.5 billion. This will partly reflect a shortfall of privatization proceeds, but the main reason is the sharp slowdown in the economy. In the last Budget Red Book, the Treasury forecast growth in the economy in the first half of 1990 at an annual rate of 2.5 per cent, but by the Autumn Statement this had come down to 1.1 per cent, or even less, excluding the effect of reviving North Sea oil production.

How restrictive or otherwise any given PSDR is cannot be divorced from the level of demand in the economy at the time. In 1988-89, the PSDR turned out at about £14 billion instead of the £3 billion forecast at the beginning of the year, largely, as last year's Red Book noted, because of the strength of economic activity. Rapid growth in the economy produces a disproportionate rise in revenues and tends to reduce the social security demands on the public purse.

Next year, the boot will be on the other foot. The last edition of the Medium Term Financial Strategy set a figure for 1990-91 of £10 billion, embodying scope for tax cuts of £1 billion. But a more sluggish economy will of itself mean a lower PSDR and, therefore, to stick to £10 billion would imply a tighter fiscal stance than previously intended.

A £10 billion PSDR next year could even represent an increase on the outturn for the current year. A tightening of this kind would be all to the good. Inflation is proving more persistent than hoped. Interest rates, although high, are still vulnerable to further increases in West Germany and elsewhere on the Continent. But the Government will need to be explicit about its fiscal policy in relation to the state of the economy. By setting a sizeable Budget surplus for the current year in the context of a long-term policy of balancing the Budget, Mr

Lawson showed his willingness to take account of cyclical fluctuations. Mr Major should take care to explain the policy rather than leave the market to come to its own conclusions.

Monetary policy also poses some conundrums. The illustrative ranges in the last MTFs set a target range for M0 in 1990-91 of 0 per cent to 4 per cent. This is one point lower than the 1 per cent to 5 per cent in the current year, which is likely to be exceeded. Mr Major and his advisers will have to consider whether people's financial habits have changed in such a way as to make faster growth in the money supply consistent with a continuing squeeze on inflation. After failing to meet the target for two years running, they could have difficulty convincing the markets that 0 per cent to 4 per cent is achievable. But not lowering it would suggest the Government had given up trying to make progress towards its ultimate goal of stable prices. It would also imply acceptance of the overshoot in the last two years — what monetary economists call "base drift."

The references in the Red Book to the role of the exchange rate will be scrutinized even more carefully than usual after the circumstances of Mr Lawson's departure and the fall in the pound since. Last year's formulation was fairly forthright: "The exchange rate is a key influence upon, and a key of, monetary conditions. It has to be considered together with all the evidence of domestic indicators in making monetary policy decisions."

Judging by Mr Major's statements so far, this year's rubric will not depart very far from last year's. Whatever the form of words, it is important that it conveys the message, first, that the exchange rate continues to be an important monetary indicator and, second, that the Government remains committed to exchange stability on a broader front as a full member of the European Monetary System.

The tentative decisions which are taken at Chevening on the macro-economic issues of the Budget will need to be revised as new information becomes available during the next few weeks. Any scope for tax cuts which the Chancellor sees now may have disappeared by the time of the Budget. Diverging ideas for tax changes which the Chancellor and his colleagues will go on to discuss must be constrained by decisions on the big numbers.

Rodney Lord

Economics Editor

Markets ignore the jobless danger signal

The United States industrial sector has continued to contract. By December, factory employment was 104,000 less than in December 1988. Over the month there was a rise in initial claims for unemployment benefit from 310,000 at November 25 to 426,000 at December 23.

The four-week moving average of these claims figures — a sensitive indicator of labour market conditions — was 30 per cent up on December 1988, pointing to developing weakness.

In mid-December, when the moving average was 350,000, Mr Ed Hyman, chief economist at C.J. Lawrence Morgan Grenfell, the financial services group, who first brought these figures to professionals' attention, said: "If the four-week average of unemployment claims moves to a new high in the next few weeks, we will probably lower our real gross national product forecast for the first half of 1990 from +1 per cent growth to -1 per cent recession."

Layoffs in the motor industry have not been included in these figures. About 100,000 motor workers will be laid off during January, and in the first quarter the rate of motor vehicle output will fall by 1 million vehicles a year in an attempt to cut stocks. Ford alone will close 13 of its 17 North American plants.

Since March, factory em-

ployment has fallen by 195,000. In December, the contraction spread elsewhere: factory employment fell by 25,000 and total goods-producing employment fell by 64,000.

In the December quarter, the increment in total payroll employment, at 439,000, was down by 39 per cent from the increment in the June quarter.

There is now more than a possibility that the growth rate of real GNP will be about 1 per cent a year in the fourth quarter and zero to 1 per cent in the first quarter of 1990.

The reaction of the financial markets to these significant economic developments has been negligible. Bond prices have not moved. The 30-year bond yield on Friday, at 8.01 per cent, was well above the August 2 low of 7.83 per cent.

Nor has the Federal Reserve taken any noticeable lead. In recent months, the Fed has confined itself to maintaining a spread of about 75-100 basis points between the 90-day T-bill rate and the Federal Funds rate.

There has been no move to add any significant liquidity to the system.

Meanwhile, the volume of commercial paper and banks' business loans outstanding has remained virtually constant since July.

Action in the economy is coming to a standstill. There is a deepening crisis in the property market, which threatens the viability of commercial banks, producing big losses for many of them.

Investment plans for the industrial sector are being put on hold as profits slump and sales of all goods encounter stiff resistance.

Christmas retail sales may have edged up to a minimal degree over the previous year. Personal savings have risen strongly since 1987, as consumers have realized that jobs are going to be harder to obtain. They face a hard time servicing enormous personal debts built up over the past five years.

Inflation is clearly receding as any kind of threat. Since May, the producer price index has risen only 1 per cent a year, while since October raw industrial commodity prices have fallen by 10 per cent.

On Wall Street, particularly on the retail broking departments and in the bond departments, there is an outright depression.

All the financial markets are waiting for some big event — a huge bank failure, or some other really big debt crisis — to galvanize themselves into facing up to what is developing as a substantial debt crisis in the domestic US system.

Maxwell Newton

Europe beckons at Citicorp

Citicorp's Springgear Vickers, the broking firm embroiled once again in speculation about its commitment to the London market, is considering a complete withdrawal from UK market-making. CSV, reputed to have lost between £30 million and £35 million in 1989, may well decide to retain a limited broking operation, to support its strategically important corporate finance division. And it is also likely to retain its derivatives business, dealing in convertible bonds, warrants and the like, which has been performing well. The main focus of the business, once a far-reaching review of all Citicorp's European operations has been completed — its conclusions are due to be unveiled in the next week or two — will be continental Europe. Following the path that has just been trodden by fellow US investment house Merrill Lynch, Citicorp will no doubt argue — and quite rightly — that the London market suffers from overcapacity and that Europe, where commissions tend to be higher, is less competitive and thus more profitable. Speculation about a withdrawal from market-making was fuelled on Friday by unconfirmed reports that Martin Burton, a director of UK market-making at CSV, has been offered a transfer to the European division — assuming that is, he wants to stay with the firm. Burton, who spent several weeks at Citicorp's New York

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Daze of wine, and passes

City recruiting practices can surprise even the most hardened applicant. Heard over lunch is the story of the top economist at a leading agency broker (no names mentioned to protect the guilty) and his job interview. Used to heavy vetting before August panels when seeking previous employment at the Bank of England, he was somewhat taken aback to find that his prospective employers in

stockbroking appeared uninterested in his academic and professional background. He was simply asked to repair to a nearby bar and a bottle of wine was poured into him at record speed. Still standing and coherent on subjects economic, he clinched the job. The moral seems to be... if you have to offer instant analysis in the bedlam of a dealing room, you do not need to be too clever, just robust.

HQ in December, was on holiday on Friday. An inside source, while denying he had changed jobs, admitted he had been involved in a project to develop CSV's European derivatives business. CSV employs about 30 UK market-makers, 17 UK analysts, half a dozen European analysts and a dozen salesmen.



Trio con brio

The career of City public relations man Phil McMinn has gone full circle, for he has been reunited with former colleagues Ian Harris and Dave Bick at Lombard Communications — they all once worked together at quoted public relations firm Shandwick. For the past year McMinn, aged 51, has been running Welbeck (City), but he has not always been in the public relations industry. In the 1960s he built up *Unitholder*, a popular magazine for unit trust investors, and sold out in the 1970s. Only then did he venture into PR, with former *Sunday Times* journalist Roger Lewis, to form Lewis McMinn. His brief at Lombard will be to develop a personal finance division. "It's just like old times again," said a happy Bick.

Carr takes up the pen

Fred Carr, the man who, to many of us, was Capel Cure Myers Capital Management, has left the firm. Carr, aged 44, a one-time partner of the original Capel Cure Myers broking firm, resigned as marketing director in December and insists it has been "an amicable parting of the ways." "I had been thinking about it for a few months. I felt it was time to move on," he says. Carr, whose real name is Francis, was told he was dismissed because he looked like Fred Flintstone when he had not shaved. "I was shaving twice a day when I was 13 years old," he boasts, "and often used to go out on to the rugby pitch with stubble." He admits to having one or two "relatively unformulated" business ideas — in the investment or financial field — up his sleeve, but says that he first wants to write a financial thriller. Clearly a multi-talented individual, his first City job was at the age of 23 with Smith Rice & Hill, where his uncle, Roy Carr, was the senior partner. Prior to that he was in the film industry, as a second assistant director, and even did some "stunt doubling." In one film, *Duffy*, he stood in for James Cockburn, running down a flight of stairs with an armful of machine guns. "I was rather thinner in those days," he recalls.

● A US magazine has disclosed that the most ignored sign of the 1980s was "Wet Paint," and the most respected "No Tipping Allowed."

Carol Leonard

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PAGE 2

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Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 27. Dealings end January 12. Settlement day January 15. Settlement day January 22.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Shellfield Ltd	Building Roads	1.00
2	James Stuart	Electronics	1.00
3	Heaven-Stuart	Building Roads	1.00
4	Ennos	Electronics	1.00
5	Vaux Group	Breweries	1.00
6	Baillys	Food	1.00
7	Bank of Scotland	Banks/Discount	1.00
8	Laporte (a)	Chemicals/Plas	1.00
9	Smith W & A (a)	Draperies/Stores	1.00
10	Hopkinson	Industrials E-K	1.00
11	Davis & Mier A	Industrials E-K	1.00
12	Ten Hilde	Industrials E-K	1.00
13	French Hotel	Hotels/Catering	1.00
14	Old Scientific	Electronics	1.00
15	Los Ind	Industrials L-R	1.00
16	Varian TV	Leisure	1.00
17	P & O D&I (a)	Shipping	1.00
18	Bentley (a)	Paper/Print/Adv	1.00
19	Shelley	Industrials E-K	1.00
20	Woodside	Oil/Gas	1.00
21	Blue Arrow (a)	Industrials A-D	1.00
22	RHM (a)	Food	1.00
23	Galiford	Building Roads	1.00
24	Bank of Ireland	Banks/Discount	1.00
25	Britannia Security	Electronics	1.00
26	McLeod (a)	Industrials L-R	1.00
27	Barclay (a)	Industrials A-D	1.00
28	Brades	Industrials A-D	1.00
29	Rolls-Royce (a)	Motor/Aircraft	1.00
30	NFC	Industrials L-R	1.00
31	Courts Furniture	Draperies/Stores	1.00
32	MEPC (a)	Property	1.00
33	Davison	Textiles	1.00
34	CH Ind	Industrials A-D	1.00
35	Conder Corp	Building Roads	1.00
36	Serling Ind	Industrials E-K	1.00
37	Andover (Henry)	Banks/Discount	1.00
38	Gong Kerr	Industrials E-K	1.00
39	Suttons Ltd	Industrials E-K	1.00
40	PKB	Paper/Print/Adv	1.00
41	Int Bus Comm	News/Press/Pub	1.00
42	Alfred Tru	Textiles	1.00
43	Westley	Industrials E-K	1.00
44	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	1.00

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of 28,000 on Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

FIVE TO FIFTY YEARS

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

OVER FIFTY YEARS

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

UNDATED

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

INDEX-LINKED

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BREWERIES

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BUILDING, ROADS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCE, LAND

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FOODS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

DRAPERY, STORES

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

HOTELS, CATERERS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ELECTRICALS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
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Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
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INDUSTRIALS L-R

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1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

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1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PROPERTY

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHIPPING

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

SHOES, LEATHER

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TEXTILES

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOBACCO

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

WATER

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

Company	Price	Change	Div	Gross Yield
1000000	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PA IN PR £16,000

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SECRETARIAL

Now's the time to get a new job

The new year is a traditional time to look for a new job, and the agencies report an accompanying upsurge in vacancies. Beryl Dixon reports on the jobs available — and how to get one

Why is there a surge in job-changing just now? John Harris, of Polyglot Agency in the City of London, says: "People who are retiring and those looking for new jobs see the end of a year as an appropriate time to go." Gill Haggerty, of Royds Raphael, expects the surge to last until March. The second week in January is the traditional time for applicants to register with an agency, and this coincides with employers' thinking. "Many hold off telling us of vacancies just before Christmas and then ask us to act for them round about now. But as many secretaries do not hand in their notice until the end of February when they have a new job under their belt, a fresh crop of jobs comes up then."

There seems to be an abundance of jobs around, so if you are in the mood for change, now is the time to look around.

Where are the jobs and who are they for? Everywhere and every-

one, according to the agencies. There is a shortage of trained secretaries at all levels, and in most industries.

Second-jobbers are in demand as never before. But beware misinterpreting the title. When a job is advertised as such it does not usually mean simply a different job, rather the first promotion. One agency says: "Some girls come along after a matter of weeks in a job and say that they are now ready to move on — having seen job adverts carrying salaries of up to £16,000."

If you have spent between six and 12 months consolidating your knowledge, honing your skills and learning how to organize an office, you could be ready for the first rung on the promotion ladder.

Drake International's marketing manager, Matthew Poyiadgi, says: "The move could be either to a more supervisory role, taking responsibility for several aspects of office administration, or as a secretary working for a team — say for an account team in an advert-



It's pointless to go for the big money in one industry if you want to make a career in another, says Gill Haggerty (left), of the Royds Raphael agency

ising agency or as secretary to a sales force.

A suitable salary to aim for, Poyiadgi says, would be in the region of £10,000-£12,000 in London. Haggerty agrees, but adds a cautionary note. "Second-jobbers can get £16,000, but that will be in the City. If that is where they are aiming, fine..."

"But the girl who comes in saying that in due course she wants a combination of secretarial and production assistant work in the film industry should take this advice: it is pointless to go now for

the big money in the wrong industry with a view to changing direction in a few years' time. It's far better to accept a lower-level job, in status and salary, in a firm company and get that experience on the CV."

Further up the ladder there are plenty of opportunities to make the transfer to a first job as a personal assistant (PA) — a much abused term — say the agencies. A genuine first PA role is for the person whose technical skills and competence are not in question, who has experience in one or more

jobs and has that "something else" — the confidence and personality that good agencies will try to establish at interview.

If you are considering trying for this level of work, expect a first interview lasting up to an hour with either an agency or a company's own personnel department before being short-listed for a second interview. Expect to be able to demonstrate that you have worked for between two and four years, consolidating your skills and developing confidence and flexibility along the way. Some

agencies use tests at this stage — typing and shorthand, and psychometric ones to produce a personality profile and suggest the ideal environment for the applicant.

If you have a foreign language the opportunities are greater. These occur at every level in companies from the multinationals to small exporters.

The languages mostly sought are French, German, Spanish and Italian (in roughly that order), but there is no such thing as a useless language, says Polyglot's Harris, who recently advertised jobs for

Swedish speakers. "The main European languages are always in demand," he says. "There is a surge in Italian at the moment, mainly with the Italian banks. Other languages come on a one-off basis. We also get requests for Russian and Japanese."

"The level of competence required varies from true bi-lingual level — someone who can take dictation in a foreign language and also handle translations, to someone who can read the occasional telex."

What about the top jobs? Are you ready to work at board level, or for a chairman? Obviously you will need to have excellent qualifications and experience, plus the personal skills, diplomacy, confidence and flexibility necessary to work at this level. To work for a chairman you will be expected to have experience with a major public limited company.

Amanda Maine Tucker, who runs her own agency and handles briefs for five of the top 20 UK companies, says: "We recruit across the spectrum but at this level we are thinking of the person who will have her own junior secretary and who will be extremely ambitious."

Age does not matter, she says, if the person is right. She has more vacancies for people aged over 30 than under — "including the ones in the £30,000 salary range, where the PA would be expected to take shorthand on the plane to Geneva or Brussels and handle a Press conference on arrival."

NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER

Continued on next page

College leavers - Career in PR £10,500 + STL

This charming PR Consultancy based in super new SW London offices is looking for a bright and friendly college leaver or 2nd jobber to join their sociable team. Your enthusiasm and willingness to learn will be rewarded with involvement, variety and as much responsibility as you desire! If you have 40+ wpm typing and want a brilliant start to your new career then call Sarah Williams on 01-872 5555 for further details on this opportunity and others.

Regus Recruitment
21 Whitehall, London SW1 2BB
Telephone: 01-872 5555

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In search of excellence! £15,000

Our Client, a young dynamic Executive Search consultancy, are looking for a well educated PA to assist a Consultant on all his assignments. The work is varied, as you will liaise with Clients, organise meetings and help with research and appraisals. Good typing and WP experience are preferable although there will be a WP Operator for you to delegate your work to. If you are looking for success in the 90s and want to be recognised then call Victoria Wall for more details on 01-872 5555.

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Regus
RECRUITMENT

ROYAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN LAW DEPARTMENT Secretarial Opportunity

An experienced, well organized secretary is required to provide full support to the Secretary Committee, the disciplinary body for pharmacists. The nature of the work is both challenging and interesting. You should possess good shorthand (90 wpm), keyboard and communication skills. Confidentiality, initiative and the ability to work to deadlines are also essential requirements. WP experience an advantage.

Starting salary: £9,572 to £11,261 p.a. High standards of performance may be rewarded by further increases up to £13,513. 25 days holiday, interest free season ticket and subsidised staff restaurant.

For application form and further details, please telephone 01-735 9141 ext 373 or write to Vivienne Murch, Personnel Manager, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN quoting ref: EF/SEC. Closing date for applications: 24 January 1990.

Smoking is actively discouraged.

PA/SECRETARY TO CHAIRMAN PUBLIC RELATIONS FROM £14,000 p.a. + £2 per day LVS.

Responsible position with excellent further prospects for fully-qualified secretary with experience in this field. Duties cover administering all key areas of client account activity, including organising and attending at press conferences and similar functions: UK and some foreign travel. Essential are accuracy, good telephone manner and smart appearance. Philips 5040 word processor.

CV marked Private and Confidential to Mr T Moriarty Thomas Moriarty Associates Ltd 53 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1BE

No Agencies

BOOKER ENTERTAINMENT

The Entertainment Division of Booker PLC is looking for an experienced Secretary to join its creative team. Excellent typing, WP, organisational skills and numeracy are essential, and shorthand and/or audio are desirable. Applicants should have initiative to work as an active part of the team. Salary negotiable.

Please write with CV to: Corinne B Pitts Booker PLC Portland House Stag Place London SW1E 5AY

ATTENTION RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Why start the New Year in the same rut you finished in last year? We have numerous vacancies offering you the opportunity to further your career. For details call Julie at J&M ASSOCIATES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS 01 631 5202

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Contact Cathy Amos on 01-630 9235. Quattro Recruitment Consultants Ltd, BP is an equal opportunity employer.

BP BP CHEMICALS

ANGLO-AUSTRIAN SOCIETY ADMIN. ASSISTANTS

ambitious and responsible with good German and modern secretarial skills (1) full-time for Travel Department (Austrian Travel Ltd) mainly for tours, flights, groups, brochures & publications (2) full-time or part-time to assist in Concert Dept. with Vienna Boys Choir tours, Taubert Prize, recitals, etc

Salaries negotiable write with c.v. to: Walter Foster 46 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AU

PA/ SECRETARY SALARY £12,000

Shorthand Secretary required for dynamic, fast moving Database company, based near Old Street to work with Sales Manager and team. Speeds 50/60 wpm with wordperfect experience. Contact Deborah Seery at L.C.D. City Cloisters, Unit B3X1, 188-196 Old Street, London EC1. Telephone 01-490 5550.

Maine-Tucker Recruitment Consultants

IN-HOUSE PR? £11,000

Would you enjoy a lot of client contact? Would you be prepared to give up a bit of your free time to attend PR Events which you helped organise? Keen to learn all about the business as you go along? This job offers complete involvement - you will be working with a very enthusiastic Press Team of young people who are really keen to help you get on. Although you must be prepared to type (anything from a guest list to an article) there is so much more for you to do! This super in-house PR department is small and part of a highly respected Private Design Company offering you limitless Career Scope. So if you have good typing and are looking for a fun fabulous job this could be the start you've been waiting for!

30 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 6LE Telephone: 01-925 0548

Maine-Tucker Recruitment Consultants

HUNTING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE? £18,000 + enormous Bonus + Pkg

This is a chance to work on a one-to-one basis as 'first point of contact' PA to a young trouble-shooting Board Director of one of the City's top Companies (which in 3 1/2 years has gone from 15 to 500 people). Only about 50% secretarial and very varied. From your own office you will handle all telephone calls - only passing on what is absolutely essential. You must be a very effective people-orientated - diplomatic, charming & decisive. A lot of the information you will be dealing with is highly confidential & your discretion paramount. Being able to work on your own initiative is vital. Previous Director level, City or similar experience really needed to tackle this fascinating post. Excellent typing (60wpm) & 80 shorthand. Call us to hear more if you are between 25 & 40.

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Maine-Tucker Recruitment Consultants

ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT POSSIBILITIES WITHOUT A DEGREE! £14,000

In one action packed, fast moving, award-winning, electrifying, futuristic, creative company you achieved more than most ever do... and so it will continue into the 90s. Working alongside these two young and brilliant creative brains put your already acquired Advertising know-how into action - this is a chance after only ONE year to start climbing the Executive ladder. Be personally involved, and feel the excitement of pricing for and winning New Business. The use of colourful Clients incorporates... Fashion... Film... Theatre & Magazines. From swish West End offices & using your 80 typing, call now to make your wildest dreams come true.

30 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 6LE Telephone: 01-925 0548

WORLDINVEST Limited CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Worldinvest is a successful investment management company situated in prestigious offices in Russell Square.

We are looking for an experienced Secretary with outstanding organisational and secretarial skills to assist our Chairman.

In addition to arranging overseas travel and business appointments, you will perform a full support role in lots of other key areas such as Research, Marketing and Sales and Corporate Planning so you must be bright, confident and able to work on your own initiative whilst also 'holding the fort' in the Chairman's absence!

First class shorthand skills required plus experience of Multitext and Ventura desk top publishing would be an advantage although we will provide cross training so long as you are experienced on other systems.

In return we can offer you an excellent salary and benefits package together with the opportunity to work with a friendly, informal and highly professional team.

Interested? Then please write to: Maudie Ross, Personnel Manager, Worldinvest Limited, 56 Russell Square, LONDON WC1B 4HP enclosing your curriculum vitae or alternatively telephone (01) 637 3322 for further details.

INVEST IN YOURSELF

PA/ASSISTANT MARKETING, SW1 £15,000 + perks Much more than a PA role - you'll be given your own projects, promotional work etc. Dynamic, fast-moving environment! (S/H + W/P)

SECRETARY TV DISTRIBUTION, W1 £neg Need a challenge? This newly formed Co. requires a good all-rounder with initiative, enthusiasm and flexibility. Interesting, varied - superb opportunity! (S/H + W/P)

SECRETARY INTERNATIONAL CO, SW1 £15,000 + perks Not a pressured, high-powered position - yet an exc. remuneration package! Must be competent, efficient and able to prioritise. Friendly team.

PA/SECRETARY MARKETING, SURREY £12,500 Working for the group chairman, first-class secretarial & admin skills are required. Demanding role - extensive telephone liaison, both in the U.K. and abroad. Beautiful offices. French an advantage. Contact Cathy Amos or Claire Zammit on 01-630 9235 (Fax: 01-421 5780)

PA/SECRETARY PUBLISHING, SW10 £14,000 + perks Working for this charming group sales/marketing director you must possess solid secretarial skills including S/H. Haste but rewarding position.

AUDIO/WP SECRETARY PROPERTY, W1 £12,500 An excellent opportunity in the prestigious company for a professional secretary with good skills, a polished manner and a high standard of education.

Contact Kate Miskin or Michelle Carrington on 01-408 0300 (Fax: 01-459 0704)

quattro RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ADMINISTRATOR £11,000 - £14,000 ESTABLISHED COMPUTER CONSULTANCY

An exciting opportunity exists to assist in running a new centralised administrative function within Wilkins, a leading IBM systems house. You will need to be self-motivated and able to work without detailed supervision.

This is an interesting and varied role involving the provision of clerical and secretarial services to the various divisions within the company. You will have the opportunity to use the most up-to-date computer technology including desk-top publishing and word-processing systems.

We are looking for a person with initiative, enthusiasm and a sense of humour. This job will involve client contact and good communications skills and personal presentation is essential.

For further information, telephone Regina Beirne on 01-403 1102 or send a detailed CV to:

WI

Wilkins Computer Systems Ltd
Crown House, 56-58 Southwark Street, London SE1 1UN.

MERIDIAN DYNAMIC DIRECTOR FABULOUS WEST END OFFICES 14,000 + Benefits

Working for the young Director in an international Services & Marketing Group, you will use your excellent skills to help run the office smoothly and efficiently. Keeping holiday & domestic records up to date, taking responsibility for the diary, travel and meeting arrangements as well as the usual secretarial duties. If you feel that you can cope with the pressure Please call Chris Strong

Rec Cons 01 255 1555

MERIDIAN PERSONNEL PA INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT BANK £12,500 + Mtg & paid overtime etc.

The opportunity to have a career in the challenging environment has arisen - most only by your ability and ambition for client is returning 1 period secretary to work closely for the Personnel Manager and you will assist in filing, use files, equipment etc. The work will be varied and robust & demanding and requires a secretary with good skills. Please call for a full job specification Daily Mail

Rec Cons 01 255 1555

MERIDIAN RESEARCH ASSISTANT AMERICAN BANK - W1 £13,000 + Mtg

A new opportunity has arisen with the expanding investment house. They require an assistant to help run their research/information systems, providing information on corporate, foreign & domestic Accounts. You will be very closely involved in the role. The business of the company which is a corporate finance and you will be cross trained on all their on-base systems. Please call for a full job specification Daily Mail

Rec Cons 01 255 1555

B.J. CRAWFORD'S CHAIRMAN'S PRIVATE SECRETARY £17,000 + bonus

Secretary with advertising experience to work for high profile boss. Must have superb organisational skills, be discreet and confident and able to liaise with V/P clients. Audio essential, knowledge of French an asset. Please contact Barbara or Linda at B.J. Crawford (see card) on 025 9692

SUSAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL SERVICES PA IN PROPERTY £14,500

Two delightful gentlemen need your first rate skills (50/60 + wpm) to help organise their small but very busy office. Flexibility good near-personal skills & previous property experience essential. Age 25+. CALL CAROL FOR AN IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW 33 ST. GEORGE'S ST. LONDON W1 01-629 9167

SENIOR PA £16,000 +

American Executive seeks a Personal Assistant age 25+ with good WP/Sec skills. Self-motivated who likes operating at Senior level. Call Helen on 040 1382 Kingsland Park Cons.

Secretary/PA required for West End Ornamental Art Gallery.

Non-smoker. £12,000 p.a. No agencies CV to: Sydney L. Moss Ltd, 51 Brook St W1Y 1AU. Fax: 491 9278.

Miss Reception Receptionist £14,000

The large Accountancy school at SE1 seeks a collected and unflappable receptionist for the front line position. Switchboard operator combined with accurate typing 40 wpm essential. Age 25-35. 01-287 0570 Miss Reception Rec Cons.

START THE NEW YEAR... with a dynamic career/company

Lively, established West End Estate Agents require mature, motivated & capable secretary able to work on own initiative. Successful candidate will preferably be City+ and of smart appearance. Starting salary £13,000+ + perks & bonuses Apply A. Wise 01 724 6111

Continued From Previous Page

NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER

PUBLIC RELATIONS ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE £12,000 W.1

You'll need good creative writing & keyboard skills. Attend briefings, write press releases, run campaigns for key clients of this prestige West End consultancy. You are 22+, a go-getter, want real prospects, and have previous PR experience. Benefits include profit share. (Ref 0795)

LEISURE DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY £13,000 + PERKS W.1

An excellent opportunity to work with the new Operations Director of this famous group. You'll have 100% shareholding & WP skills to match your initiative. A "one-on-one" role where you can get really involved. You are 20+ and will enjoy lots of perks & discounts on travel & shops. (Ref 4003)

PUBLISHING SECRETARY IN FINANCE £13,000 W.1

A newly created role to assist the Finance Director and his team, in a very lively, friendly, international publishing company. You will be responsible for setting up systems & providing full secretarial support. You are 20+, have SSWPM on a WP system (comes with MS Word). (Ref 0792)

BEATERS

Personnel Recruitment Consultants
OXFORD ST. KENSINGTON
Call Petra & Janet Call Nikid & Dawn
636-1493 376-2238
Fax 255-1237 Fax 376-0267

PERSONNEL IN PROPERTY TO £13,000 CITY

Working with the Recruitment and Training Director & the Personnel Officer running the administration of a busy department in this international Surveyor. You have good audio/visual skills (GSPWPA), ideally WANG, but they will cross-train. Bonuses, STI, Pension - Age open. (Ref 4030)

TELEVISION PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR £15,000 W.3

A lively personality, a mature PA with a stable career record to work with the busy boss of an expanding TV station. Organising travel in UK and abroad, arranging meetings and press releases. You are 25-32, have excellent skills, shorthand and WP. Ideally Wordperfect 5.0. (Ref 4021)

OFFICE SOFTWARE TRAINER £16,000 (NEG) + TRAVEL

To work mainly on client's sites, training on superb software - WP, spreadsheet, graphics, for this fast-growing company. You can expect to travel within the UK & Europe. Training experience & knowledge of DIGITAL WPS +, Dectate or ALL-IN-1 a distinct advantage. (Ref 4033)

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP
PA TO DIRECTOR
MINIMAL SECRETARIAL
£15,000 + 10% BONUS
+ 30% FASHION DISCOUNT

A fantastic opportunity for an experienced PA to enjoy a 1 to 1 role with minimal secretarial content. Lots of administration, organisation, and travel arrangements. If you are well presented, mid to late 20's with rusty shorthand and WP phone Jo Nichols.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP
THE NICEST MAN TO WORK FOR
£15,000

According to last PA, Work in close conjunction with this Computer Manager. Dealing with conferences, consultants who write highly innovative new software packages, lunches and travel. If you would like to work in a unique established finance house with terrific prospects, a lot of computer involvement, and you have shorthand and audio. Phone Tina Edwards.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP
TRUE PA
IN MANAGEMENT

Join this privately owned management consultancy, and you will feel more than an employee as you are encouraged to take a full interest in general business and participate in profit share. They have young staff and appreciate input of ideas. A well educated person who wants executive secretarial level and should have good WP skills. Salary £18,000 ideal age 23 - 45. Phone Lynn Lait.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP
6 WEEKS HOLIDAY IN PROPERTY!
£14,500

Year you do get six weeks holiday plus free lunches and superb social life within one of Mayfair's largest property companies. Job satisfaction is also a certainty as this position offers you a one to one at director level. You will be involved in improving the architecture of London and use your WP skills plus audio typing for general correspondence. Phone Vicky Clarke.

01-486 6951

OBJETS D'ART AT AUCTION
£11,750 + Benefits & bonus package
SEC/PA 21+

Working behind the scenes within this leading auction house preparing to organise and sell great style objects in computer catalogues, lists with buyers, website deals. Handle with care! Good working environment and lots of fun.

Phone Jo Nichols on 01-581 9799
Ref: K 1868

Professional PA
£16,000
Audio SW1

A challenging opportunity for a professional PA who would welcome the chance to become really involved with major client work and act as "home base" for influential Board Director, who travels between New York and London. Office of a well established and highly professional firm of Head-hunters. Based at Victoria.

Please contact us on 01-581 9799
Ref: K 1867

Video Production
£11,500
Sec to the Producers

An exceptional post not for a budding producer. The longest marketing services in the UK are offering a challenging opportunity to utilise your communication and audio typing skills in an exciting world of video production. Lots of potential for advancement. Ability to generate and think on your feet a must.

Contact us now for more info on 01-581 9799
Ref: K 1866

Assistant Account Exec
£12,000
SW1 22+

A genuine opportunity to move from the typewriter to an executive role. This professional, fast-paced, fast-track role in an exciting career handling major advertising accounts. Please call us now on 01-581 9799
Ref: K 1865

QUEST FOR THE BEST
£17,000

A chance to join the highly successful MD of one of the most expanding International Media Executive Search Consultancies based in Mayfair.

A true P.I. role which means you work on a one to one basis, have varied tasks and constantly learn new things. You will be helping with the search assignments from beginning to end and above all, you must be pro-active, aged 25+ with good typing skills.

Nadia Quamook will be happy to discuss this further on 01-439 6021.

TEMPS
£9 PER HOUR

We are one of London's most prestigious consultancies and are currently seeking "top-notch" secretaries to join our expanding temporary team.

Whether you prefer an established City bank or a creative environment, we have assignments to suit your needs. We offer top rates and a personal service.

If you have experience in Wang, Wordperfect, Olivetti, Multimate or Microsoft Work please call Jo Trussell on 01-621 0680 or Andree Rose on 01-439 6021.

IT'S THE TOPS!!
£16,000 + very early review

Would you enjoy driving a Jaguar? Booking evenings at the Opera?

One of the Senior Partners at this leading European Architectural practice wants to recruit a top notch PA to keep him totally in check. The duties for this sought after position will change constantly - above all you must be on the BALL & remain calm under pressure! Good secretarial skills essential. Please call Nadia Quamook on 01-439 6021.

MULTILINGUAL BANKING
to £16,000+ package

An opportunity to use your fluency in German and/or French, Spanish or Italian. Supporting 2 busy Directors your role includes secretarial support (100%), administration, research and daily contact with European clients. Previous banking experience is helpful but not essential.

This prestigious company requires candidates with a flexible and helpful attitude and the ability to work under pressure. Please call Karin Chiang on 01-621 0686.

ROYDS + RAPHAEL

MUSIC PA £15,000
A superb opportunity to enter the world of Music. As PA to the MD of this International Co. you'll be involved with signing up new acts, liaise with artists, agents & managers. Rusty S/H. Age 23+.

PRESS OFFICE BONUS £11,000
Europe leading design consultancy need an experienced secretary to learn all aspects of Press & PR. Prepare press releases, in-house newsletters & deal with the media. 50+ typing, O'level Ed. Age 18+.

BONUS ADMINISTRATOR £14,000
Award winning Creative team need an experienced & personable to oversee projects, control budgets & organise designers. Stunning offices, Health Club & Restaurant. Excellent WP skills.

TEAM CO-ORDINATOR £15,000
Assist top Director of this famous Architects. Prepare presentations & tenders, research clients & organise adverst ext campaign. Natural ability to delegate, prioritise & supervise. Good WP skills.

30/32 FOUBERT'S PLACE LONDON W1V 1HF
TELEPHONE 01 287 2050

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES
Recruitment Consultants

FRANCE: Secretary/Administrator for small London (W 10) subsidiary of French food firm. Liaison with UK customers and Paris head office. Requires: fluent in French, excellent English, good typing skills, organisational skills, and general office experience. Around £12,000-£14,000.

SPANISH: General Manager (Corporate Finance) of an international bank is looking for a PA/Secretary with fluent Spanish. With an extremely busy schedule, he needs the best possible liaison from someone with polite, pleasant and sensitive. Good English shorthand. To £16,000 plus bonus and package.

FRENCH: Bilingual Assistant/Secretary to Sales Director. Over 60% of the work is administrative, including client contact, taking orders, preparing estimates (L2), supervisory and planning duties etc. Perfect English, fluent French. £12,000-£15,000.

GERMAN: A new City job with a strong administrative bias. PA/Secretary to the Deputy General Manager (about to be posted here) of an international bank. He needs someone with good German experience, able to organise and work independently. To £12,500 plus package.

01 836 3794
22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

LANGUAGE RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD

GERMAN EXPORT: Office Administrator urgently required for small trading Co. Admin. & clerical duties. Excellent organisational & communication skills essential. Will deal with clients all over the world and act on own initiative. Must have good working knowledge of German and English (for occasional letters). £12,000 neg.

FRENCH IV: Bilingual Sec/Administrator for lively dept of Int. Commerce W. London. Must have good telephone manner for outgoing personality. £12,000.

SPANISH: MATURED Several vacancies for bilingual Secs in Drapers, Banking, Insurance, Marketing etc. £12-14,000 Neg.

GERMAN STOCKIST: German bilingual Sec (Dutch, Spanish, Italian useful) for busy Stock Exchange. Normal sec duties with good opportunity for growth. £12,000 - £14,000.

ITALIAN BANKING: Several vacancies for bilingual Italian Secs (S/H sec) with Italian clients. £13-14,000 + Perks.

BILINGUAL TEMPS - with good sec skills & WP always welcome - Top Rates

01-387 7622 or C.V. to
LRS, Strode House,
46-48 Osborn Street, NW1.

MEDIA CAREERS
£9,500-13,500

As a major force in Media Recruitment Christopher Keats recruits for most of the

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companies in Central and Greater London. If you are seeking a media career and are prepared to use your secretarial skills in return for total involvement, responsibility and prospects, contact the Media Specialists on:

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Recruitment consultants may all appear the same - but that is just an illusion.

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appointments
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Required for a young lively Design Consultancy. Plenty of opportunities to develop skills and to get involved in the fast growing company.

Good telephone manner and presentation essential. Typing skills required - no shorthand.

Please contact: Elizabeth Billeit
Andrew Martin Associates
2 Vincent Street
London SW1P 4LD
Tel: 01-634 7460

Sec No S/hand
£14,500 + paid o/time

Prestigious Management Consultants seek to recruit a young ambitious secretary who wishes to become part of a fast moving "work hard, play hard team". Extensive travel arrangements, together with admin. Chance to use your creative skills, learn about publishing. Meal and travel allowance. Audio/VP skills. 24+

Call Val Wade Associates on 01-437 3793.
(Ref Cons)

SECRETARY/PA TO MAGAZINE EDITOR

Editor of specialist international magazine in Westminster requires an experienced secretary/PA for demanding but fulfilling role as part of editorial team. Should be highly literate and numerate, with interest in language. Minimum of one foreign language at least to A level. Publishing or similar background an asset. Benefits include season ticket loan.

Please send CV to: Janet Donnell, R&C International, East Wing 4th Fl, Hope House, 45 Gt Peter St, London SW1P 3LT. Tel (01) 222 0288. NO AGENCIES.

P.A./OFFICE MANAGER BOOK PUBLISHER IN W.1

The Managing Director of this fast growing publisher needs someone with first class shorthand and typing ability to run an office for 25+ people at the same time as providing him with personal assistance. The successful candidate will be friendly, efficient, hard working and flexible to get the most out of this involving job. Good salary and conditions, negotiable according to skills and experience.

Please telephone Tim Hely Hutchinson on 01-631-1687.
No agencies.

International Photographic Agency

We are one of the world's leading suppliers of photography to the advertising, travel, publishing and corporate markets.

- a friendly and very busy company come to St John's Wood tube in North London.
- ALICE IS LEAVING US

Many of our experienced, quick-thinking secretaries (WP and audio) may come to try. Cuts is a small, friendly secretarial team handling a varied and interesting workload within the fast expanding company. Salary around £13,000 and very good prospects. Please send CV to Kim Soder.

TSW
photography
Tony Stone Worldwide
28 Finchley Road,
London, NW8 6ES

MOVE UP TO CHELSEA HARBOUR

Our firm of successful Architects and Designers requires a top class Receptionist/Person Friday with good secretarial (50 wpm) and organisational skills to join our lively office. You must be well presented, able to cope under pressure and be proficient in handling people. In return we offer an excellent salary plus bonuses and a generous benefits package.

Please telephone Branda Ward on 01-376 5033 or write with CV to J.A.P. (Design) Ltd, 2/18 Harbour Yard Studios, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10 0XD.

International Property Development Co

Personal Assistant to the MD of an international Property Company, involved in Italy, Portugal and France.

Must be intelligent, numerate, smart and determined to make this position her career. Must be ready to travel extensively at very short notice. Knowledge of languages - particularly Italian - an advantage.

Hard work, and for the right person, lots of fun, satisfaction and financial reward.

Please contact Julie Sellers on 01 936 4188
Fax 01 932 1562

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR FOR FOODSERVICE COMPANY

ARE YOU EFFICIENT, ENTHUSIASTIC AND CAN YOU REALLY ORGANISE?

You could well be what our Operations Director is looking for. Working in a busy Head Office in NW10, you will be required to process excellent secretarial skills (100 wpm) although shorthand not essential, on a Wordperfect 5 WP system. You must be generally contributing to a hardworking team in return we will offer up to £15K, four weeks holiday, subsidised lunches.

If this is the challenge you are looking for - call Mrs. J. Kral on 01 965 0182.

SALES SUPPORT SECRETARY
To £11,000

Busy, friendly, expanding commodity broker requires energetic and flexible secretary to support hardworking sales team. Good typing and WP skills are essential. Suit second jobber educated to 'A' level standard.

Contact: Jane Taylor
Kingsley Limited
109 Bernerswood Street
London SE1 3JH
01 407 8002
(No agencies please)

LEISURE PROPERTY

P.A./Administrative Secretary to work for partner in charge of West End office of small and successful firm of Chartered Surveyors specialising in the exciting leisure sector.

Responsibility for administration of the office and scope to become fully involved in future expansion.

WP (Word 5 training available) and audio. Non-smoker. Ability to work alone on occasions. Starting salary: £13,500 p.a.

Write please, in confidence, with full C.V., to:
William Hillary & Company, 26-28 Saville Street,
London W1X 1DA.

SALES SUPPORT SECRETARY
To £11,000

Busy, friendly, expanding commodity broker requires energetic and flexible secretary to support hardworking sales team. Good typing and WP skills are essential. Suit second jobber educated to 'A' level standard.

Contact: Jane Taylor, Kesperry Limited
109 Bernerswood Street, London SE1 3JH
01 407 8007
(No agencies please)

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES LTD

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£16,000

The chairman of a large Co. is looking for a professional PA/Sec with excellent Shorthand (100 wpm) and conversational French to assist in his international business in the world of Finance and Investment. Must be a highly motivated, energetic, and a team player. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently.

01 226 6427 31a Stone Street London SW1.

SECRETARY
THE GUILD OF AVIATION ARTISTS
THREE DAY WEEK ON COMPETITIVE SALARY

Exciting opportunity for a professional person to join the Guild of Aviation Artists. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the Guild. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the Guild. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the Guild.

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VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE
£13,000 - BENS

The leading West End law firm seeks a young sec to work at director level. Must be a legal first class. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment.

01 251 2061

NEW YEAR - NEW YOU ...
E ATTRACTIVE
PA EXTRAORDINAIRE

Enterprising Management Consultants based in WC1 are looking for a team player to co-ordinate these Executives. Life will never be dull with you. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment. You will be given the opportunity to work in a fast paced and busy environment.

01-493 3314

£14,000 +

Senior partner of a successful, Chartered Accountants in West End. Senior partner of a successful, Chartered Accountants in West End. Senior partner of a successful, Chartered Accountants in West End.

01 226 6427 31a Stone Street London SW1.

ADMIN PA
£14,250 + O/T + BENS

The young international Co. needs a highly motivated, energetic, and a team player. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently. Must be able to handle a large volume of work and be able to work independently.

01 226 6427 31a Stone Street London SW1.

INTERIOR DESIGN

Part-time PA/Secretary for well established, prestige, Chelsea-based interior design firm. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the firm. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the firm. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the firm.

01 226 6427 31a Stone Street London SW1.

ADMINISTRATOR SECRETARY

Busy training company in W12 needs enthusiastic secretary to deal with telephone enquiries and handle administrative work. Good typing and WP skills are essential. Suit second jobber educated to 'A' level standard.

Salary £10,500.

Contact: Frances Mitchell on 749 7467.

CONFERENCE ASSISTANT

With experience required now for medical conference organisers in Sutton, Surrey. Basic secretarial skills and numeracy essential. Car driver preferred.

Salary negotiable.

Telephone 01-461 0577 for interview

PA/SECRETARY

Required for Managing Director of City based private leisure company and its Deputy. Excellent secretarial skills, flexible approach and sense of humour essential in return for attractive salary and benefits including use of exclusive health club with swimming pool.

Please write including Mr. R.A.H. Fletcher, Colston Sports Club, London Bridge City, London, SE1 2LN.

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CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued from page 26

PERSON FRIDAY
£29,500

The best first job ever? You will be well presented and well spoken with a helpful personality. If you've got some keyboard skills more the better. Your colleagues are friendly and full of fun. 17/18.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
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THE MANAGEMENT SCHOOL
Secretary/Personal Assistant to the Director

The Director of the busy new Management School is looking for a Secretary/Personal Assistant. The post would be an experienced secretary who has the ability to use initiative, deal with people, and is highly organised.

Word processing skills and some shorthand are essential.

Excellent working conditions and surroundings in South Kensington.

Salary on the range £12,236 - £13,750 per annum (approximately £15,011).

Please telephone Mrs E. Parnell, School Administrator on 01-588 5111 ext. 7122 to arrange to see her at The Management School, 53 Piccadilly, London W1A 3DG.

Senior PA to £16,500

This team spirit financial company seek a polished and professional PA/Secretary. You'll assist a bright and quick thinking director who is keen to delegate. He will encourage you to take on your own areas of responsibility within this high profile role. This is a superb opportunity to use your administrative abilities to solve problems, set up systems and organise your boss's busy department. 80/50 skills.

Please telephone 248 3744

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
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MARKETING RESEARCH
PA c £16,000 (25+)

Join the new MD and Vice President of a major corporation setting up a division involved in financing new projects (minimum £10M+).

They seek a positive personality who can make decisions and organise projects as there will be extensive planning and a great deal of client liaison. Longer term this position will develop towards a marketing/research role. Secretarial skills are required - good WP knowledge and an 'A' level education.

HODGE
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
01-629 8863

BANKING AND LEGAL CRÈME

INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM
seeks for its Paris office located near Etoile English-French bilingual secretaries to work at partner level. WP experience required.

Good salary & pleasant environment.

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MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

GERMAN PA - FRANKFURT £18,000 + Expenses
Excellent opportunity for an experienced PA to develop a career in Frankfurt with the M.D. of a German company. The PA will be responsible for the M.D.'s diary, travel arrangements, correspondence, and general secretarial duties. Salary £18,000 + expenses. German speaking. 50/50 skills. 25+.

GERMAN PA - FRANKFURT £18,000 + Expenses
Excellent opportunity for an experienced PA to develop a career in Frankfurt with the M.D. of a German company. The PA will be responsible for the M.D.'s diary, travel arrangements, correspondence, and general secretarial duties. Salary £18,000 + expenses. German speaking. 50/50 skills. 25+.

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MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

PA in Paris £22,000
Use your French to become fully involved in the true PA role with a French company in Paris. The PA will be responsible for the M.D.'s diary, travel arrangements, correspondence, and general secretarial duties. Salary £22,000. French speaking. 50/50 skills. 25+.

GERMAN PA - FRANKFURT £18,000 + Expenses
Excellent opportunity for an experienced PA to develop a career in Frankfurt with the M.D. of a German company. The PA will be responsible for the M.D.'s diary, travel arrangements, correspondence, and general secretarial duties. Salary £18,000 + expenses. German speaking. 50/50 skills. 25+.

GERMAN PA - FRANKFURT £18,000 + Expenses
Excellent opportunity for an experienced PA to develop a career in Frankfurt with the M.D. of a German company. The PA will be responsible for the M.D.'s diary, travel arrangements, correspondence, and general secretarial duties. Salary £18,000 + expenses. German speaking. 50/50 skills. 25+.

Spanish and Italian
£14k + exc bns

Spanish MD and Italian VP of prestigious City Bank are seeking a bilingual Sec/PA (English mother tongue standard) to assist them. Young team where you will enjoy extensive use of your languages, a high salary, and a great opportunity for career advancement. A confident, professional manner is essential, together with good secretarial skills (50/50 not essential) and director level experience.

Telephone 01-379 3189 (Rec Cons)
5 Denmark Street London WC2H 8LP. Fax 01 379 8621

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SECRETARY/PA with European languages needed by Human Resources Director in Central London. Salary £15,000 + expenses. 50/50 skills. 25+.

SPANISH speaking Receptionist needed by publishing firm. Salary £12,000 + expenses. 50/50 skills. 25+.

SPANISH speaking Receptionist needed by publishing firm. Salary £12,000 + expenses. 50/50 skills. 25+.

SPANISH speaking Receptionist needed by publishing firm. Salary £12,000 + expenses. 50/50 skills. 25+.

TEMPTING TIMES

Have you got what it takes to step into someone else's shoes?

We don't have an array of temps stretching out of our doors every week. Instead we have some very nice clients who need some help and some extremely efficient tempers who want some work - and we carefully match them together.

Whether you want to temp for a week or a year, or until you find something permanent, come and take advantage of a VERY good service and some great rates of pay. We have some vacancies right now that could be just your size.

Make an appointment with
Wendy Ball on 01-702 3765

Thomas Mann
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London E1 9UN

NON-SECRETARIAL

Receptionist/Telephoneist (No Typing)
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Assisted Mortgage Non Call Pension

Smart receptionist in friendly professional City company. Work with clients by phone and in person. Well presented, articulate. Previous experience of managing front line reception.

Please contact Claire Platt, Love + Tate Appointments, 01-437 3303

RECEPTION SELECTION

ENJOY getting visitors in the receptionist role in a friendly, professional City company. Work with clients by phone and in person. Well presented, articulate. Previous experience of managing front line reception.

Please contact Claire Platt, Love + Tate Appointments, 01-437 3303

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EDUCATIONAL

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
Department of Theoretical Physics

UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP IN THEORETICAL CONDENSED MATTER PHYSICS

Applications are invited for a University Lectureship in Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics, to be held concurrently with a Tutorial Fellowship at St. Hugh's College. The post is to be filled from 1st October 1990.

Further particulars of the Lectureship, the existing programmes in Theoretical Physics and Condensed Matter Physics, and generally of Physics in Oxford can be obtained from Prof. D. Sherrington, Dept. of Theoretical Physics, 1 Keeble Road, Oxford, OX1 3NP, England. (FAX 0865) 273418; Email Sherrington@UK.AC.OX.PH.V1 to whom curriculum vitae, publication list and details of a proposed research programme should be submitted by March 15th 1990.

Applicants should arrange for letters of reference from three referees to reach the Department by the closing date.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Director of Careers Service

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post of Director of the Careers Service of the University of Edinburgh. Applicants should be graduates with proven managerial and administrative abilities, holding a record of successful experience of vocational guidance and placement within a higher education setting or similar experience within a related profession. Salary will be determined individually, but will be on Administrative Grade 6, equivalent to the Professional range.

Further particulars may be obtained from The Secretary to the University, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, to whom application by letter (7 copies), including CV and the name of three referees should be received by February 14 1990. Please quote reference number 80/89.

CHAIR OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM
(NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE)

Applications are invited for the above chair which the University now wishes to fill. The successful applicant will have a proven record of excellence as a researcher and teacher in the area of New Testament studies. It is envisaged that the appointment will be for the first 10 years.

Salary will be within the professional range.

Further particulars may be obtained from The Secretary to the University, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, to whom application by letter (7 copies), including CV and the name of three referees should be received by February 14 1990. Please quote reference number 80/89.

LECTURESHIP IN NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Applications are invited for the above lectureship. The post will be tenable from 1st October 1990, but priority will be given to the holder of the Chair of Biblical Criticism. Applications are invited from scholars in all areas of New Testament studies.

The salary will be on the Lecturer Grade A (£10,456 to £15,372 per annum) or the Lecturer Grade B (£8,104 to £12,469 per annum) scale, according to qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms for these two posts are available from the Director of Personnel Services, The University, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, to whom applications should be sent to arrive no later than 15th February 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS
ST MARY'S COLLEGE

CHAIR OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM
(NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE)

Applications are invited for the above chair which the University now wishes to fill. The successful applicant will have a proven record of excellence as a researcher and teacher in the area of New Testament studies. It is envisaged that the appointment will be for the first 10 years.

Salary will be within the professional range.

Further particulars may be obtained from The Secretary to the University, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, to whom application by letter (7 copies), including CV and the name of three referees should be received by February 14 1990. Please quote reference number 80/89.

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

LECTURER DEPARTMENT OF MINING ENGINEERING

Applications are invited from suitably qualified graduates in Mining Engineering for the post of Lecturer in the Department of Mining Engineering. The successful applicant will be expected to teach a range of mining engineering subjects at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and promote research in one or more appropriate fields. Candidates should preferably have a PhD. Research experience in rock mechanics and geotechnics would be preferred.

Salary will be at an appropriate point in the range £10,456 - £20,469 p.a. according to qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, (Tel: 0602 464848 ext 3355) Closing date: 28 February 1990. Ref: 1292

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IN AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

The Royal Postgraduate Medical School is an international centre for medical research. It requires an innovative, committed management accountant to develop management accounting and information systems which will enable the School to maintain its pre-eminent academic position and to monitor and secure its financial position. This is a key position at a time when the School is becoming increasingly reliant on the generation of income to augment its traditional public-sector funding.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate relevant accounting skills of the highest order in addition to the personal skills needed to liaise with a wide variety of academic and technical personnel. The salary will be negotiable, according to age and experience, up to £24,000 p.a.

Contact the Personnel Office for further details (reference E204).

Personnel Office
Royal Postgraduate Medical School
Du Cane Road, London W12 0NN
Tel: 01-740 3204

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Chair of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Studies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the newly-established Chair of Chinese. The Salary will be in the professional range.

Further Particulars may be obtained from the Secretary to the University, University of Edinburgh, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, with whom applications (7 copies), including curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged no later than 14th February 1990. Overseas candidates need submit only one copy of the application.

Please quote reference No. 79/89

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

SCHOOL OF ARTS CHAIR IN FRENCH

Applications are invited for the Chair in French available from September 1990. Applicants should have an established reputation as a scholar in some field of modern French studies (applied linguistics, studies/politics, 19th/20th century literature).

The successful candidate will be expected to have an active interest in and experience of modern methods of language teaching.

Salary will be within the professional range.

Further particulars of the post are available from the University Secretary, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA, Tel: 0786-73171, ext 2500, to whom applications (7 copies) including the names of three referees should be sent by 16th February 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Professorship in Politics

Applications are invited for a Professorship in the Department of Politics from suitably qualified candidates working within any field of political studies.

Salary within the Professional range.

Further details and application forms from the Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL (0203 523527) quoting Ref No 20/A/89/7 (please mark clearly on envelope). Closing date for applications 3 February 1990.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

CHAIR IN THE ECONOMICS OF ASIA

The School invites applications for the above Chair. Applications (10 copies) should be submitted to the Secretary, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, London, WC1H 8XG from whom further particulars should be obtained.

The closing date for applications is 2 March 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Continued on next page

Continued From Previous Page

EDUCATIONAL

01-481 1066

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS



Professorship • Senior Lectureship • Lectureships Teaching Associates

The following new posts are offered in the School, due to continued expansion of its academic programmes.

A.E. Higgs Professor of Manufacturing Policy and Strategy

This professorship is seen as the focal point for teaching and research in production and operations management in the School. Applicants should have a strong research, teaching and publications record in one or more areas of the broad field of operations management. The production and operations management group has built up a strong reputation for innovation and research, and its current research interests include manufacturing strategy, just-in-time management, service operations management, and performance measurement. The School's strength lies in being at the leading edge of both research and practice, and the successful candidate will be expected to provide academic leadership and support to enhance this position. Informal enquiries may be made to the Chairman, Professor Robin Wensley (0203) 523923. Ref: 19/24/89/7.

Senior Lectureship in Marketing and Strategic Management

To teach, research and publish in the field of Marketing and Strategic Management. The person appointed will be joining a strong and rapidly growing group within the Business School, which has an emphasis on research and includes Professor Peter Doyle, Professor Robin Wensley and Professor Brian Houlden. The group has particularly strong links with the very successful Warwick MBA and provides a major contribution to its teaching. It is important that applicants should have the potential to pursue high quality research and the ability to encourage others. Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Peter Doyle (0203) 523911. Ref: 19/24/89/7.

Lectureships in Industrial Relations and Organisational Behaviour

A Lecturer Range A post and a Lecturer Range B post within the Industrial Relations and Organisational Behaviour Group. Candidates for the Lecturer A post should have completed, or be about to complete, postgraduate work in the general area of human resource management/industrial relations and be willing to teach this material in undergraduate and postgraduate classes. The Lecturer B post requires a person with a strong academic background and commitment to research in the field of organisational behaviour. A willingness to teach postgraduate courses on the management of change is an essential requirement. Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Graham Barrett or Linda Dickson (0203) 523328. Ref: 19/24/89/7.

Teaching Associateships in Operational Research and Systems

Three posts have been established which provide an excellent opportunity to new entrants. The posts involve up to half a teaching load, mainly of tutorial support. Successful candidates will register for a Ph.D. per-thesis and will be expected to complete a thesis within the four year contract period. The Operational Research and Systems Group is responsible for the teaching of operational research, systems methodologies, information systems, computing and quantitative methods, and research topics should fall into these broad fields. Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Robert Dwyer (0203) 523775. Ref: 19/24/89/7.

Salaries are on the following scales:
Professor: £24,783 (minimum) p.a.
Senior Lecturer: £21,489 - £26,253 p.a.
Lecturer Range A: £10,439 - £15,372 p.a.
Lecturer Range B: £16,014 - £20,469 p.a.
Teaching Associates will be appointed on the Research BS scale: £9,816 - £12,381 p.a.

The School has an expanding post-experience programme and members of staff can generate substantial additional income from teaching on other programmes, and from consultancy, with the prior approval of the Chairmen of the School.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, quoting appropriate reference numbers. Closing date is 18 February 1990. The School welcomes applications from both men and women, members of ethnic minorities and people with disabilities.



UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

THE ROWE & MAW CHAIR OF COMMERCIAL LAW

The College invites applications for this newly-established Chair vacating in the Department of Law at University College London.

The post has been made possible by a donation by Rowe & Maw, solicitors. The holder of the Chair should be willing to teach undergraduates and postgraduate students and to supervise and conduct research in the broad field of Commercial Law.

Salary will be in the professorial range (minimum £24,783) plus £1,650 London allowance.

Further particulars may be obtained from Professor B. A. Heppie, Head of Department of Law, University College London, Benthams House, Endelburgh Gardens, London WC1H 0EG, telephone 01-380-7082.

Applications (10 copies) including a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of 3 referees should be sent to the Provost, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT to arrive by 31 January 1990. Equal Opportunities Employer.

THE GOODMAN CHAIR OF MEDIA LAW

The College invites applications for this newly-established Chair vacating in the Department of Law from 1 October 1990. The post has been made possible by private donations. The holder of the Chair should be willing to specialise in legal problems in relation to expression and communications in the light of new technological developments, changing social practices and values, and in the context of changing regulatory control of the various media.

Salary will be in the professorial range (minimum £24,783) plus £1,650 London Allowance.

Further particulars may be obtained from Professor B. A. Heppie, Dean and Head of the Department of Law, University College London, Benthams House, Endelburgh Gardens, London WC1H 0EG, telephone 01-380-7082.

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK LECTURESHP IN INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Economics. Candidates should have an active research interest in Industrial Economics. Salary on the Lecturer Scale, Grade A scale £10,438 - £15,372 p.a.

Further particulars and application forms from the Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL (0203 523927) during Ref No 21/1/89/7 (please mark clearly on envelope) Closing date for applications 2 February 1990. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON 2 Year Lectureship in Late Antique and Byzantine History

Applications are invited for the above post, which is funded by the British Academy and is tenable for 2 years, from 1 October 1990, with salary up to point 6 on the Lecturer Grade A scale (£10,438 to £15,372 p.a.) plus £1,650 per annum London allowance.

Applications forms and further particulars are available from Dr T. J. Doran, Senior Lecturer in History, King's College, London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS (tel. 01-435 5454 ext. 1140). The closing date for receipt of applications is 15 February 1990.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER LECTURER IN GERMAN STUDIES

Applications are invited for the post, which is funded by the University of Manchester and is tenable for 3 years, from 1 September 1990, with salary up to point 6 on the Lecturer Grade A scale (£10,438 to £15,372 p.a.) plus £1,650 per annum London allowance. Further particulars and application forms from the Personnel Office, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL (tel. 01-275 2611) during Ref No 21/1/89/7. The University is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

UNIVERSITY OF READING LECTURER IN HISTORY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship from 1 August 1990, under the New Academic Appointments Scheme, in the Department of History. Candidates should have an interest and qualification in modern British political history since 1750. Initial salary up to £12,381 p.a. on the Lecturer Grade A scale (under review from 1 April) plus USS benefits.

Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from Personnel Office, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 217, Reading, RG6 2AH. Telephone 0734 318751. Closing date 31 January 1990. Please quote Ref. AC 9003.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for a Research Assistantship to the Department of Chemical Engineering. The work will be concerned with simulation and performance of semi-batch reactors. Applicants should have a first degree in either chemical engineering or an allied discipline and a higher degree or equivalent post-graduate experience.

The post is available immediately and tenable for up to three years. Salary is on the R.U.T. scale £10,438-£16,014. Further particulars and application forms can be obtained from Professor B. W. Brooks, Department of Chemical Engineering, Loughborough University, LE11 3TU.

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER Chair of Physical Chemistry

Applications are invited for a Chair of Physical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry which is available from 1 October 1990. Applicants with a proven record of research achievement in any branch of physical chemistry will be considered. Salary will be on the agreed Professorial range: minimum £24,786 p.a. Further particulars available from the Personnel Office, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4QJ. Closing date for receipt of applications 15 February 1990.

Southampton THE UNIVERSITY UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON FACULTY OF MEDICINE PROFESSOR OF HUMAN MORPHOLOGY

Applications are invited from graduates in medicine or science for a Chair of Human Morphology which will become vacant on the retirement of Professor D. Mayor in September 1990. Candidates may have research interests in any field of the anatomical sciences and related subjects and should have wide experience of teaching human anatomy. Further information is available from the Secretary and Registrar, The University, Southampton, SO9 5NH (tel. 0703) 582932 to whom applications (10 copies from applicants in the UK) should be sent before 16 February 1990.

ASTON BUSINESS SCHOOL CHAIR IN MARKETING

Aston Business School is the largest in Great Britain, and enjoys a high reputation. Its Division of Corporate Management is seeking an outstanding individual for the above post to strengthen and expand research and teaching in Marketing, and to contribute to the senior leadership of the Division, the Business School and the University.

Applications will be welcome from excellent candidates in any field of Marketing, with Marketing Strategy being an area of particular interest. Demonstrated achievement, and strong commitment to high-quality research and publication, are the overriding requirements. Distinction within a relevant field of practice and/or consultancy, and an extensive network of professional contacts in the UK and abroad, are also desirable. An active interest is encouraged in such ventures as the on-campus TV-based Centre for Extension Education, and the consulting opportunities provided by the Aston Science Park and the West Midlands Technology Transfer Centre.

Salary will be open to negotiation (UK professorial salaries currently average over £30,000 p.a.). A continuing appointment, secondment or limited-term contract will be considered, with appropriate remuneration.

Anyone wishing to discuss the post informally, from personal interest or to advise others, may approach Dr H.G. Hunt, Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Search Committee, or the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Frederick Crawford, Tel. (021) 359 3611.

Further information may be obtained from the Personnel Officer (Academic Staff),

quoting Ref. No. 8945/2, Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET.



ASTON UNIVERSITY



Leicester University

Faculty of Medicine

CHAIR OF MEDICAL PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the foundation Chair of Medical Physics and Headship of the Department of Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering of Leicestershire Health Authority.

Applicants should have a strong research record in any field of Medical Physics and should possess the leadership and management skills and experience required to head a large NHS department, based at the Leicester Royal Infirmary. The successful candidate will be expected to undertake collaborative research with both University and NHS colleagues.

The salary will be within the non-clinical professorial range.

Further particulars from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH. Tel. (0533) 522439. UK candidates should submit twenty copies of their application. (Overseas candidates may submit one copy). The University FAX number is (0533) 522280.

Closing date for applications: 28th February 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP IN MATHEMATICAL BIOLOGY

(in association with Brasenose and St. Hilda's Colleges)

Applications are invited for a University Lectureship in Mathematical Biology tenable from 1 October 1990 or as soon as possible thereafter. The successful candidate may be offered a national fellowship by St. Hilda's College (the details of which provide that all fellows shall be women) or, if a man is appointed, a national fellowship by Brasenose College.

Further particulars of the lectureship and of the college fellowships may be obtained from Professor J.D. Murray, F.R.S., Director of the Centre for Mathematical Biology, Mathematical Institute, 24-9 St. Giles, Oxford OX1 3LS (telephone: Oxford (01865) 273547 or FAX (01865) 272252) to whom applications (on typed copies or one from overseas applicants) should be sent by 6 February 1990.

University of Oxford
in association with Wadham College,
St Hugh's College and Lady Margaret Hall

University Lectureship in Spanish

Applications are invited for the above post which is to be filled under the New Academic Appointments Scheme. Stipend according to age on the scale currently £10,438 - £21,852 per annum. Preference will be given to candidates who teach, and provide graduate supervision, in modern (i.e. post-1800) Spanish and Spanish American literature. The successful candidate may be offered an Official Fellowship at Wadham College and a Lectureship at St Hugh's College and Lady Margaret Hall (the secure application to the colleges is required). Further particulars concerning the appointment and its scope may be obtained from the Secretary of the Oxford Centre for Modern Languages, 37 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JF, to whom completed applications should be sent by 28 January 1990.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

POSTS

Continued on Facing Page

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS DEPARTMENT OF LAW LECTURER

Applications are invited for the above post, which is available now or from a later date to be agreed. Candidates should be able to undertake a major responsibility for European Community Law.

Salary on the scale for Lecturer Grade A (£10,438 - £15,372) or Grade B (£16,014 - £20,469) according to qualifications and relevant experience.

The Leeds firm of Thomas Linsell has agreed to provide generous financial support for the undertaking of research by the successful candidate.

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor W. H. Rogers (tel. 0532 355011).

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from and completed applications returned to the Registrar, The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT (tel. 0532 333969 - direct line), quoting reference no. 41/28. Closing date for applications 2 February 1990.

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS KNOSSES CURATOR

Applications are invited for the post of Knossos Curator, resident at the British School at Knossos, Crete, for a term of 3 years, renewable. The post is a full-time position, involving the care and supervision of the archaeological site and the collection of antiquities. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the site and the collection, and will be expected to undertake research and publication in the field of Cretan archaeology. The salary is £12,381 p.a. plus the equivalent of U.K. income tax on that salary, with free accommodation.

Closing date for applications (with curriculum vitae and names of two referees) 15 January 1990. Further details from the British School at Knossos, 34-36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0DA. Tel: 01-275 6026.

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED AT ACTIVITY CENTRE

Stable work experience for 18-25 year olds working with activities and crafts to children. Qualifications: minimum GCSE in English and Maths. Salary: £10,438 - £15,372 p.a. plus £1,650 London allowance. Tel: (0749) 812307/813589.

PART-TIME TUTOR ACCOUNTING

Enthusiasm, qualified tutor needed to teach 'A' Level and GCSE Accounting to 'A' level. For details please ring: Mrs Temple on 01-969 1269.

PREP & PLBIC SCHOOLS

Would be interested in preparing a further fine class London school in a good residential area. Those interested should reply to BOX 485.

THE POLYTECHNIC OF HUDDERSFIELD NT 1457A

An Equal Opportunity Employer SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (THREE POSTS)

Salary Scale: PD 32-36 (£15,312-£17,195)

The Polytechnic is seeking to complete the team of Administrators who will assist the Deans of the nine schools of study and research in planning, promoting, organising and monitoring their academic and financial activities.

The role requires degree level qualifications, knowledge of management information systems, organising ability and communication skills: experience of budget construction and control will be an advantage.

Application forms can be obtained (SAE, please) together with a detailed job description from the Personnel Office, The Polytechnic of Huddersfield, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH. Applications must be submitted by 22 January 1990; interviews will be held in the week beginning 29 January.

HUDDERSFIELD POLYTECHNIC

the sense of achievement

Sharncliffe College of Technology & Art

VICE-PRINCIPAL

£23,996-£25,182 (Burslem Group 5 - under review) - we are looking for someone with energy, imagination and flair to take a leading part in the organisation and management of the College's development into the 90's. If you have demonstrated success in working with people to achieve corporate goals then this post could provide the ideal next challenge. We are seeking to extend and enhance our service to the wider community and need managers of skill and vision. Women and black people are particularly encouraged to apply as they are under-represented in the service at this level. Further particulars and application forms from the Principal, David Tootman, Sharncliffe College of Technology & Art, Hagley Road, Sharncliffe, West Midlands, DY8 1QU (0384 378531). Closing date 25th January.

Equal Opportunity Employer



ACADEMIC CO-ORDINATOR KENSINGTON CENTRE SALARY £18,000 + benefits

The American Institute for Foreign Studies requires an Academic Co-ordinator who is both a dynamic teacher and experienced administrator for its London Partnership Programmes organised in co-operation with over 100 major American state universities and colleges. Duties include co-ordination, with a small teaching input, of courses required of all students, liaison with visiting American faculty and their home institutions, time-keeping and timing of part-time lecturers for other courses for over 300 students, as well as administration of an international summer session. Applicants should possess an advanced degree in history, politics, business studies, economics or sociology. Apply in writing with CV to Ms D Wilson, AIFS, 37 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR (closing date 25.1.90).

BRADFIELD COLLEGE (Co-educational Sixth Form - 250) (13-16 boys - 310)

Applications from suitably qualified teachers (both men and women) are invited for the following posts:

Head of Geography Head of Physics

Assistant teachers to A Level of:
Economics and Politics
Art
English

Additional help is also required with Religious Studies teaching and with the pastoral care and extra-curricular activities of girls. Candidates able to offer in these areas should make it clear in their applications.

Bradfield College Salary Scale; housing provided; excellent facilities.

Applications by 1st February 1990 (with curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees) to:

The Head Master
Bradfield College
Reading
Berkshire RG7 6AR
Tel: 0734-744203

from whom further details may be obtained.



William Hulme's Grammar School MANCHESTER

Appointment of BURSAR

The Governors of William Hulme's Grammar School invite applications for the post of Bursar, which will become vacant in September 1990 on the retirement of Commander G. S. Raw, R.N. The School is an independent co-educational day school of some 800 pupils, recognised by the GBA and HMC. The Bursar's post is residential.

Suitably qualified applicants with wide experience at a senior level in financial and administrative management (including computerised accounting), and a knowledge of the upkeep and maintenance of buildings and grounds, should apply in writing for fuller details of the post and an application form to: The Head Master, William Hulme's Grammar School, Springfield Road, Alexandra Park, Manchester M16 9PL (marking the envelope "Bursar"). Closing date for applications is 31st January 1990, with final interviews leading to selection being held in early March 1990. The successful candidate will be required to commence a period of take-over from the present Bursar on 1st August 1990.

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test in 'barnyard build-up'

By Michael S. Rosenberg
Racing Correspondent

A bold display by Charlie Frost against Charlie Brody's Rusty and Lori and Waverly Boy in the Arlington Premier Series Classic Final at Caddamum on January 27 would have been the former champion's last go for a shot at the Desert Grand at the National Hunt Festival in March.

"The horse himself was up what race to go for at Caddamum," said Charlie Brody yesterday. "If he wins or just finishes well, he'll be in the race for the Gold Cup. But if he gets badly beaten, we'll have to

see if he's got any more life in him."

Brody's horse, the 1987 Grand National winner, has just been named as the favorite to win a new season's Gold Cup, with his owner, John W. Smith, of the Phoenix and the New York City area.

Brody's horse, Rusty, was the 1987 Grand National winner, and has been named as the favorite to win the Gold Cup, with his owner, John W. Smith, of the Phoenix and the New York City area.

been dissatisfied with the slow progress of events.

After watching only his sixth success of the campaign, Mitchell said: "Cool Ground was unexpectprisingly ridden at Chepstow or he'd have been much closer to the winner. We've been placed at least in four of the last five National Hunt Festival and we'll try and go on better in the spring."

Those who laid 11-3 on Frost's Sun must have been worried when Jimmy Frost was hard at work rounding the final bend of the Grand National, struggling between the last two flights but found a remarkable

Even the realistic Peter Scudamore was impressed by Celtic Shot's 20-length defeat of

Nodding in the *Philadelphia Inquirer's* Chase at Sanderson on Saturday when he was conceding his loss to Jim Jeff's talented six-year-old.

"That's one of the best rides I've ever had over the Sanderson," Nodding said.

Jackey, a former professional football player, was named the 1974-75 "Jockey of the Year" by the Jockey Writers' Association. He is a member of the National Jockey Club and the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association.

Mont Tremblant (1974) and Captain Christy (1974) have been the only dressage sows.

ices to capture the blue ribbon of chasing in the past 45 years, the national Trophy and Forest Sun's woodland across over Aduzi in Philip Cornes' final at Newbury," said the trainer.

But the owners might well have been wiser to run a "Celticmania" campaign.

Gifford's other runner, the talented Midnight Court, foundered in the second half of the race in the New Year Handicap Chase beyond his powers.

Pu's Lady looked the probable winner until falling three furlongs out, leaving Bishops Yarn and

Desert Cavalry still

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10. The Champion, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620

13 WORDS WITH 10 LETTERS (1-10)
1,858: 2m 40.0 (1989)

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1 CCF GENERAL CLERK Wm. J. ...
2 CCF ...

[illegible]

Results from Saturday's four meetings

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1.335 1. **Camacho** (10-14), 1st place
 2.345 2. **Camacho** (10-14), 2nd place
 3.355 3. **Camacho** (10-14), 3rd place
 4.365 4. **Camacho** (10-14), 4th place
 5.375 5. **Camacho** (10-14), 5th place
 6.385 6. **Camacho** (10-14), 6th place
 7.395 7. **Camacho** (10-14), 7th place
 8.405 8. **Camacho** (10-14), 8th place
 9.415 9. **Camacho** (10-14), 9th place
 10.425 10. **Camacho** (10-14), 10th place
 11.435 11. **Camacho** (10-14), 11th place
 12.445 12. **Camacho** (10-14), 12th place
 13.455 13. **Camacho** (10-14), 13th place
 14.465 14. **Camacho** (10-14), 14th place
 15.475 15. **Camacho** (10-14), 15th place
 16.485 16. **Camacho** (10-14), 16th place
 17.495 17. **Camacho** (10-14), 17th place
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National Hunt Leaders

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Wagner	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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Robins brings relief for Ferguson

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Nottingham Forest 0
Manchester United 1

Alex Ferguson, the beleaguered manager of Manchester United, left the dock at the end of his trial by television yesterday and embraced the youngsters who had protected his reputation. In lifting the club into the fourth round of the FA Cup, Mark Robins spared him another week of savage criticism.

Contrary to popular opinion, Ferguson would not have suffered a more decided fate, the sack, even if United had failed to prolong Brian Clough's barren sequence in the competition. But victory has eased the position of the board of directors who have continued to offer him their support during an otherwise despairing season.

Now, at least a beam of light has been cast across the future of Ferguson and his side. Since the middle of November his expensive assets had stumbled from one embarrassment to another, scoring only three goals and failing to win any of their last eight games. Worse still, the list of injuries was extended to include Ince, Danny Wallace and the inspirational captain, Robson, as well as Webb.

Nottingham Forest who had knocked United out of the Cup on each of their four previous meetings (including the quarter-final last season) threatened to darken the outlook still further. But United, mis-shapen and incohesive though they may have been in sinking to fifteenth place in the first division, cannot be accused of a shortage of effort.

Defiantly, they clung on to Forest, marginally the superior side in an inferior and thoroughly undistinguished first half, before raising their challenge. Pallister, growing in stature in each appearance, was particularly prominent in a defence which creaked and almost cracked only in the frenzied anxiety of the closing stages.

By then Robins had restored their conviction with his second goal in three senior outings this season. Ferguson had been reluctant to entrust the frail 20-year old with the heavy responsibility of filling a key role until he was persuaded to do so by the continuing lack of firepower from the recognized partnership of Hughes and McClair.

Robins, who has claimed 120 goals for the reserves in two and half seasons, had made an instant mark in the draw against Wimbledon nine days ago. He made an even deeper impact on this third round tie. It was especially pleasing for Ferguson that another of his youngsters, Martin, should be responsible for launching the decisive 60th minute counter attack, a foray usually used effectively by Forest.

Martin, the left back, aged 21, dispossessed Orygsson and allowed Hughes to curl a cross with the outside of his foot into that part of the area patrolled by Pearce. Forest's captain was beaten by Robins and so was their goalkeeper by his gentle header. Ferguson could not disguise his relief.

But although United's belief grew visibly and immediately, the manager was to endure another 25 minutes of suspense before being rewarded with a visit to Hereford United in the next round.

Forest created enough openings to have earned not only a replay but also a place among the last 32. Crosby was thwarted by the spreadeagled Leighton, Jenson shaved a post with a shot that hobbled across the face of United's goal, had a goal disallowed and then sliced wide from close range. Walker, at the end of another impeccable display, and Wilson, a belated substitute, also threatened to claim an equaliser.

Clough, for whom the FA Cup remains so elusive, warmly congratulated his counterpart when the tense affair had come to an end. He can still guide his side towards the consolation of the Littlewoods Cup, they met Tottenham Hotspur, another Cup victim this weekend, in the quarter-final in ten days time.

Ferguson, however, was in far greater need of survival. After spending £13 million to assemble his team, the prospect of spending a long and cold winter attempting to explain the evaporation of all of Old Trafford's dreams was clearly not one he wished to entertain. His reprieve was earned by his youngest and most inexpensive individual.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: S. Sutton, S. Lowe (sub: G. Charles), S. Pearce, D. Walker, S. Christie, S. Hodge, G. Crosby, G. Parker, N. Clough, N. Jenson, G. Wrightson (sub: T. Wright).
MANCHESTER UNITED: J. Leighton, V. Anderson, I. Martin, S. Bruce, M. Phelan, G. Pallister, H. Beardsmore, C. Blackmore (sub: M. Wilson), M. McClair, M. Hughes, M. Robins.
Referee: L. Shepherd.

Northampton best

Northampton's 1-0 victory over Coventry City, the Football League first division side, has earned them the vote from Bobby Robson and his panel as the Barclays performance of the week.



Lying low: Leighton, the Manchester United goalkeeper, denies Jenson, of Nottingham Forest, as Bruce rushes in to help

Hereford revive memories

By Louise Taylor

In theory, a trip to a club in the bottom half of the fourth division should prove a formality for Manchester United; in reality, Alex Ferguson and his players are unlikely to be complacent over the prospect of an FA Cup fourth round tie at Hereford United.

Edgar Street has seen the end of cup aspirations of some illustrious visitors, none more so than Newcastle United, then of the first division, in 1972. At the time, Hereford were a non-league club, but that did not prevent them putting out Newcastle in the third round courtesy of a Ron Radford goal.

If historical background is insufficient, the fixture has further spice as Hereford are managed by Ian Bowyer, a winner of several medals while playing for Nottingham Forest, who succumbed to United yesterday.

Bowyer, whose side recovered to win after being 1-0 down with four minutes to go against Walsall on Saturday, said last night: "From being

down and out we now have the biggest game in the club's history. Manchester United is the most glamorous club in Britain and all of a sudden we will have supporters who have not been to our ground for 10 years. I fancy our chances more than at Farnborough in the first round."

If replays go according to form, Norwich City, semi-finalists last year, will entertain Liverpool, the holders, in what would be the connoisseur's choice as the tie of the round. Exeter City and Swansea City will have different ideas.

Few managers will relish the draw more than Dave Bassett, whose Sheffield United side entertain his former Watford

charges. Bassett's invariably abrasive approach did not wash with the family image at Vicarage Road, and after an uneasy seven months they parted acrimoniously in January, 1988.

Bassett left Watford at the bottom of the first division and they were later relegated. Subsequently he has hauled United from the third division to the top of the second and should revel in the contest on January 27.

Watford can take heart from the fact that they have progressed to the fifth round in each of the last eight seasons.

Reading's victory over Sunderland leaves them at home to another north-east club, Newcastle United, six

times winners of the trophy. As Ian Porterfield, the third division club's manager, said: "It could not be better for us."

Providing his Queen's Park Rangers players can overcome Cardiff City in a replay on Wednesday, Don Howe can look forward to proving a point at Arsenal, the club he managed before the directors decided he lacked the requisite charisma in 1987.

After seeing off the first division challenge posed by Coventry City, Northampton Town could have wished for something more glamorous, not to mention lucrative, than a trip to Rochdale. Similarly, Brighton and Hove Albion, conquerors of Luton Town, must have envisaged a more rewarding pairing than a trip to either Birmingham City or Oldham Athletic.

Lack of good fortune also applies to Torquay United, away to Blackpool after beating West Ham United but, if they can defeat Cambridge United at Freetown, Dartington, the sole non-league survivors, face first division opponents with a visit to either Manchester City or Millwall.

Jones' header is small comfort for Charlton

By Clive White

Charlton Athletic 1
Bradford City 1

A goal nine minutes from time by Andy Jones, the forgotten Charlton Athletic forward, saved the first division club's blushes and ruined the day for Terry Yorath, his Welsh international team manager, at Selhurst Park yesterday.

Charlton's desperate season was heading for further ignominy when Jones, who has just returned from a month's loan with Bristol City, rose to a cross by Williams to flash home a headed equaliser which even Yorath, the Bradford City manager, had to admit was a good one.

It was Jones' first goal for the club since September 20 and maintained an unexpectedly respectable strike rate of nearly one goal every three games for the club.

Otherwise, there was not a great deal that was respectable about a game between two sides whose FA Cup chances can immediately be dis-

counted; even if a visit to West Bromwich Albion should not be insurmountable. Charlton looked altogether too at home in the company of second division opposition and struggling second division opposition at that.

Victory seemed to be there for the taking as the visitors' goal underwent some hairy escapes. Walsh, far and away Charlton's most accomplished player, teased Tomlinson in goal with two crosses in quick succession, the first of which Tinnion almost directed past his own goalkeeper with his head. Amid the same burst of activity around the Bradford goal, McLaughlin forced a desperate save out of Tomlinson.

The hard luck story theme continued when a shot from Peake was obviously destined to the back of Bradford's net; fortunately for the visitors it struck Sinnott and was deflected wide. Lee went close, too, with a diving header.

A penalty appeal for a foul

by McLaughlin on Jewel was all that Bradford had managed to muster when a push by Peake on the same player in the most innocuous circumstances two minutes before half-time provided grounds for an even stronger appeal which this time Michael Bailey, the referee, unhesitatingly accepted. Bolder, who minutes earlier had treated a thumping volley from Tinnion with disdain, was this time easily beaten by the full back from the penalty spot.

Bradford, who had not won away all season, seemed on course for a change of luck as Charlton unwisely forsook the subtle approach for high lofted balls up to Williams, none of which the little fellow won in the towering presence of Sinnott. No wonder that Lennox Lawrence, the Charlton manager, regarded Jones' unscheduled equaliser as a "small step in the right direction".

CHARLTON ATHLETIC: R. Bolder, J. Humphrey, J. Morrison, A. Peake, J. McLaughlin, J. Colton, R. Lee, S. Williams, S. Mackenzie, C. Walsh, A. Jones.
BRADFORD CITY: P. Tomlinson, S. Mitchell, B. Tinnion, M. Alderson, L. Sinnott, D. Evans, G. Abbott, A. Davies, M. Leonard, P. Jewel, J. Jackson.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC: R. Bolder, J. Humphrey, J. Morrison, A. Peake, J. McLaughlin, J. Colton, R. Lee, S. Williams, S. Mackenzie, C. Walsh, A. Jones.
BRADFORD CITY: P. Tomlinson, S. Mitchell, B. Tinnion, M. Alderson, L. Sinnott, D. Evans, G. Abbott, A. Davies, M. Leonard, P. Jewel, J. Jackson.

END COLUMN

Penalty must fit the crime

By David Miller

It is perhaps a reflection on the present state of English football that, from the evidence of the third round of the FA Cup, it is all the more entertaining for the liberal assistance of slippery mud, so often the friend of the underdog. What most distinguished the 32 cup ties was the spirit of sportsmanship in which they were played, none more so than the drawn matches of Exeter against Norwich and Blackburn against Aston Villa.

Confined at home by the seasonal virus, I was dependent on the BBC's television coverage; and over two days of watching large and small parts of almost half the matches there were only two discreditable incidents to be seen.

The first was a so-called professional foul on the hour at the Victoria Ground, when Groves of Arsenal, put clear by Merson and with only the goalkeeper to beat, was shamelessly dragged off the ball by his arm from behind by Carr, the Stoke midfielder player.

The foul was precisely the kind which the Football Association is recommending, at the summer meeting of the International Board in Rome, should be reintroduced as an automatic sending-off offence. Yet Neil Mingley, a professional referee, did not even book Carr.

Threat to visiting club supporters

The other nastiness, barely detected on the screen, was the threatening gesture by Johnsen of Rochdale to the visiting supporters of Whitby Bay, whose manager had disrespectfully referred to the Rochdale fourth division side as a Mickey Mouse team.

Such gestures, especially when made after leaving the field of play following the scoring of a goal, must become bookable offences — as indeed should the well-known Adidas advertisement depicting a pile of embracing bodies on the ground, astride the goalkeeper, under the legend: "The Spirit of the Game".

Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, confirmed yesterday that notice had been given as technically required of intent to raise the issue of sending-off for the professional foul, banned by FIFA in 1987 because of the unilateral method of introduction in England but now belatedly finding FIFA's approval.

The FA will debate the matter at the February meeting of the referees' committee. They reassured that the "professional foul" constitutes "serious foul play", which is a sending-off offence under the existing laws. FIFA originally contended that serious foul play necessitated the use of excessive force liable to cause injury to the opponent; they now concede that injury to the reputation of the game is an even more serious corruption of the laws, and worthy of sending-off.

Rule could apply to goalkeepers

If approved in Rome, during the first week of the World Cup, it will apply equally from next season to goalkeepers deliberately playing the ball and not the foot in last-ditch desperation of Samworth's foul in the 1982 World Cup when he should have been sent off but remained to play a decisive part in the semi-final penalty shoot-out against France.

The FA's action, together with the disciplinary measures against Arsenal's unsporting behaviour — now possibly to be repeated — and against illegal betting by the Swindon chairman and former manager — are demonstrations of the new mood of moral rearmament being introduced by Kelly. Not before long, football can still be a fine game, as we saw on Saturday, whatever the Government thinks.

For too long the FA have remained mute in the battle against hooliganism not just on the terraces but on the field. There can be no doubt that it will take only a handful of players to be dismissed for the professional foul for managers to put a stop to it within a matter of weeks. "We saw this in 1982", Kelly says, "when it was widely successful before it was brought to a halt".

Pleading for good intentions from managers is not enough, too many managers don't have any. The punishment has to fit the crime.

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Appeal by Willey is rejected

By John Goodbody

Dean Willey, the Commonwealth weightlifting champion who was dropped from the England team for this month's games in Auckland because of a positive drugs test, has lost his appeal against a lifetime ban.

A letter from Willey seeking clemency was read to the Central Council of the British Amateur Weightlifters Association (BAWLA) on Saturday but the governing body decided to maintain its policy of lifelong suspension which it has held since 1984.

Willey said that he took testosterone, the male hormone which has a strong anabolic action, because he had damaged an ankle, missed training and needed the drug to help him prepare for seriously for the Games.

BAWLA has the strictest regulation of any governing body against drug abuse. The International Weightlifting Federation only has a minimum two year suspension.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation also has a two-year ban for hormone drugs, which is why in September the Canadian Athletics Authorities can seek the reinstatement of Ben Johnson for international events.

BAWLA agreed on Saturday to start random out of competition testing as soon as possible.

Up to 400 lifters, men, women, seniors and juniors, in both Olympic lifting and power-lifting could be involved in the new programme of testing both at championships and with 48 hours notice, at their homes or places of work.

England step up training

From a Special Correspondent, Lanzarote

The England rugby union squad moved straight on to match practice at their training camp in Lanzarote yesterday, after the announcement of the team to meet Ireland at Twickenham on January 20.

Will Carling, the captain, took charge of the morning session after the players had negotiated yet another shuttle running exercise against the stopwatch.

The England coaches and management took a back seat on the penultimate day of the five-day training trip as the players ran the show, using the huddle as the starting point for the team's full repertoire of back-line moves.

While a number of the squad have yet to receive final clearance to tour from their employers, the England management is confident

most will be available. There is no suggestion from the players that there are any serious problems.

Besides giving each player a 40-page handbook, offering advice on all aspects of rugby life, the back-up staff have come up with another pre-match rule. This affects the meal on the Friday night before internationals and red meat is now banned from the menu.

Red meats need more energy to be digested, according to the experts, and so the England hotel will be asked to amend its catering accordingly. The players already stick to a no-drinking rule.

Twickenham teams, page 36

SPORT IN BRIEF

Reprieve for Hall

Bridgend have agreed to grant their British Lions three-quarter, Mike Hall, a permit to play for Cardiff on Saturday, but are standing by their refusal to give him a permanent transfer until arrangements have been made for the repayment of a £4,300 loan.

"We are not going to give up on this until the financial matter is settled," Ivor John, chairman of the Bridgend selectors, said. The money was loaned to Hall to help him through his two post-graduate years at Cambridge University.

Tour dates

Toulouse (AFP) — Australia will play two internationals during their five-match rugby league tour of France later this year.

Tie off

A last-minute row over the eligibility of an English basketball player prevented the semi-final of the ASAW Welsh Cup final being played in Cardiff on Saturday night.

Winning start

Paul Westhead had a winning start to his career as coach to the England senior women's volleyball side when he led his new charges to the Pulman Cup in Luxembourg last night. England retained the trophy by beating the host nation 15-11, 15-12, 15-9, in the final.

Masters date

Ronan Rafferty will play in the US Masters golf tournament at Augusta National, Georgia, from April 5-8. Augusta officials confirmed that the Ulsterman was being invited for the first time, after topping the European order of merit in 1989.

300 wickets

Sydney (Reuters) — Geoff Lawson, the fast bowler, became the first New South Wales bowler to claim 300 Sheffield Shield wickets as he through West Australia's top order on the opening day of their four-day cricket match on Saturday.

Boat Race to stay with BBC

Senior BBC officials have fended off attempts by satellite television to cover the Boat Race by doubling their deal with Oxford and Cambridge to around £50,000. The BBC, who first covered the race in 1938, will screen it live for the next five years.

Duncan Clegg, the London representative of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Clubs, admitted they had spoken to satellite TV representatives and other companies interested in wrestling the race from the BBC. "We have had long negotiations with the BBC and they have ended up doubling what they pay," Clegg said. "I would have been happier with more money, but I'm pleased the deal is done. The BBC have done a fine job and it is hard to imagine anybody doing it better."

Richards gets broken finger

Viv Richards, the West Indies cricket captain, fractured a finger in the opening match of the domestic season and doctors have advised him not to play for three weeks.

Richards injured the middle finger of his left hand when he dropped a slip catch while fielding for the Leeward Islands against Barbados.

Leeward manager, Ricky Skerritt, said that although doctors had advised Richards to rest the finger for three weeks, he may still bat in the game if needed.

England are due to open their winter tour of the West Indies against the Leeward Islands on February 2.